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2

[legend]

Reiji Saeki, an ordinary boy living in rural Tohoku region, has died. All seems to be over... Yet, he wakes up, to a vision full of shimmering white, with a glowing sphere floating right in front. The sphere claims to be, an magician from another dimension, in search of a heir to pass on the magic that it has perfected. With the magical powers and a new physical existence, Reiji's adventure in *Elgin*, the magical world begins...

Ch 1-59 Legend

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Table of Contents

1.	Legend Chapter 1
2.	Legend Chapter 2
3.	Legend Chapter 3
4.	Legend Chapter 4
5.	Legend Chapter 5
6.	Legend Chapter 6
7.	Legend Chapter 7
8.	Legend Chapter 8
9.	Legend Chapter 9
10.	Legend Chapter 10
11.	Legend Chapter 11
12.	Legend Chapter 12
13.	Legend Chapter 13
14.	Legend Chapter 14
15.	Legend Chapter 15
16.	Legend Chapter 16
17.	Legend Chapter 17
18.	Legend Chapter 18
19.	Legend Chapter 19
20.	Legend Chapter 20
21.	Legend Chapter 21
22.	Legend Chapter 22
23.	Legend Chapter 23
24.	Legend Chapter 24
25.	Legend Chapter 25
26.	Legend Chapter 26
27.	Legend Chapter 27
28.	Legend Chapter 28
29.	Legend Chapter 29
30.	Legend Chapter 30
31.	Legend Chapter 31
32.	Legend Chapter 32
33.	Legend Chapter 33
34.	Legend Chapter 34
35.	Legend Chapter 35

36.	<u>Legend Chapter 36</u>
37.	<u>Legend Chapter 37</u>
38.	<u>Legend Chapter 38</u>
39.	<u>Legend Chapter 39</u>
40.	<u>Legend Chapter 40</u>
41.	<u>Legend Chapter 41</u>
42.	<u>Legend Chapter 42</u>
43.	<u>Legend Chapter 43</u>
44.	<u>Legend Chapter 44</u>
45.	<u>Legend Chapter 45</u>
46.	<u>Legend Chapter 46</u>
47.	<u>Legend Chapter 47</u>
48.	<u>Legend Chapter 48</u>
49.	<u>Legend Chapter 49</u>
50.	<u>Legend Chapter 50</u>
51.	<u>Legend Chapter 51</u>
52.	<u>Legend Chapter 52</u>
53.	<u>Legend Chapter 53</u>
54.	<u>Legend Chapter 54</u>
55.	<u>Legend Chapter 55</u>
56.	<u>Legend Chapter 56</u>
57.	<u>Legend Chapter 57</u>
58.	<u>Legend Chapter 58</u>
59.	<u>Legend Chapter 59</u>

Legend Chapter 1

Legend Chapter 1

The intense midsummer sun glared down. Saeki Reiji wiped the sweat off his brow as he waited with his bicycle at a red light.

「It's hot, or should I say, it's already hot.」

He bitterly scowled at the sun, as cicadas chirped in the background. Despite the fact that it was only just past 10AM, the temperature had already exceeded 30°C. According to the TV, other areas reaching 40°C wasn't uncommon. But for Reiji, who lived in Tohoku's countryside, 30°C was hard.

「In this heat, swimming in the river would be good.」

The next few lines will describe how remote Reiji's area was. It was a place where you could barely get cellphone reception. It took more than an hour by bicycle to get to the nearest town from home.

If you think of a second year high school student's summer vacation, it's usually busy with exam study. But Reiji was not worried about that at all. Anyway, few students in Reiji's high school go on to higher education, most find jobs in the local area.

Because of this, Reiji was enjoying the long vacation of his second year in high school, summer vacation retaining its original meaning. Of course homework was given, but he had spent the first few days of summer vacation finishing that to enjoy the rest of the break.

In that time, he received news that a new fiction book he had been looking forward to could be found at a bookstore. Because of that, he had come to town in this hot weather.

「However, will get a little cooler.....or should I ask Father or Mother to come pick me with the car?」

While grumbling, he waved his T-shirt around to let out the hot air. Even with that said, with this temperature, it's nothing more than a drop in the bucket.

Wiping the sweat that had come out again in the few minutes that he had waited for the red light, he directed his line of sight to the surroundings.

Several decades ago this place may have been crowded, now over 60% of shops have closed. Even if he said that many students would find local employment after high school, the number of students has steadily decreased along with the number of children.

In fact, some houses near Reiji's place had already started demolition.

「I wonder if the depopulation will continue.」

Though he said that, it was pointless for him to consider as there wasn't a particular

solution.

At the moment he was thinking about that.『It's Dangerous, Look Out!』A voice shouted out loudly.

He reflexively turned his gaze at that direction, a steel frame about 5m away entered his vision.....it became the last scene Reiji saw in the world.

「Ah.....finally.....」

Hearing a voice, Reiji woke up suddenly. Nothing but white space could be seen in the surroundings. It seemed to continue endlessly.

「.....Where is this?」

The steel frame definitely crushed him.....he calmly made this strange judgement, he gave a cry as he remembered the moment before before his death.

「I seems you've woken up, my successor candidate.」

Turning his consciousness to the voice, a presence automatically came into view.

「A glowing orb?」

Yes, there was a glowing orb about 30cm away from him. As it flickered, a voice came from it.

「I'm a glowing orb, but you are a glowing orb as well, do you understand what I'm saying?」

Listening to the words of the glowing orb, he noticed for the first time that his body was also a glowing orb. He certainly didn't have any hands or feet, he couldn't sense that he had eyes or ears either. Yet why could he see and hear.

「What happened?」

「Quiet down, successor candidate.No, you aren't confused? As expected of my successor candidate.」

「Successor? Candidate?」

「Hmm. I called your soul to me the moment before it disappeared.」

Reiji thought about the scene where the steel frame was about to hit him before thinking about what the glowing orb said. Certainly, it was unlikely that he had survived the situation.

「That's right. I certainly.....should be dead. So here is the so-called afterlife?」

「No. This is a kind of spirit world between two worlds. I was using my art in search of a successor, and you were caught in it.」

So said the glowing orb in a level tone. Reiji was surprised.

「Is it, that? You interfered with the law of causality and I got killed?」

In the recent novels, comics, movies and games that Reiji enjoyed, it was a familiar development.However, he wasn't happy that it had happened to himself.

But in front of him, the glowing orb emitted a voice again while flickering.

「No. My art works when the soul of a person who has the qualifications to be my successor is dying, it is an art that only temporarily moves a person to this spirit world before heading to the afterlife.」

Listening to those words, Reiji's mood became somewhat lighter. If the contents of what this glowing orb had said was true, his death had nothing to do with the glowing orb..... However, that was only if the contents were true.

It was a stranger that he had met for the first time.....it was not possible to confirm if the story of the strange glowing orb was true.

With that said, they couldn't remain like this forever and so Reiji prompted the continuation of the previous point.

「Please continue.」

「Hmm. As I said before, I was trying to invoke an art to find an existence worthy of becoming my successor. And thus you have appeared. Therefore you are a successor candidate.」

「I was wondering about it from a while ago, but successor of what?」

「Successor of a magic that is on the brink of disappearing, the successor to the magic called Magic Beast Art.」

The voice muttered somewhat sadly, as the glowing orb flickered.

「When I brought you here, I roughly read your memories. My world is different from your world, there is something called magic. I am a magician with powerful magic power and magic. People in my organization were the same. In my organization, we created what is called the Magic Beast Art.」

「Since your organization invented it, isn't its disappearance a major thing?」

「I won't deny it. The prerequisites for this magic is to have a large magic power, because of

this, it was difficult for anyone outside of my organization to learn it.」

「Do I have.....a large amount of magic power?」

Since a large magic power is a prerequisite for the Magic Beast Art, if he didn't have a large amount of magic power, he wouldn't even be considered as a successor. That was what Reiji thought, but the answer from the glowing orb was outside of his expectations.

「You do. To be more precise, a person with more magic power than you probably doesn't exist in your world.....Why was the existence that can only be called a special mutation like you born in a world without magic. Though it is an interesting question, I do not have the time to solve that mystery. Therefore, I want you to listen and judge for yourself.」

After that, this is what the glowing orb talked about. As mentioned earlier, magic exists in the glowing orb's world. It seemed that the organization which the glowing orb came from was one of best in his world and where top-class magicians were gathered. Though it was only a group of magicians, their war potential was enough to destroy a single country in several hours. In such a place where the best magicians were gathered, the Magic Beast Art, which the glowing orb had previously mentioned, was created. However, because of the massive magic power requirements to use the Magic Beast Art, nobody outside of the organization was able to master it. The unfortunate impact of all the genius magicians gathering in one era was that not a single talented magician appeared in the next generation. In addition, because of the relation it created, the Magic Beast Art could only be used once in a lifetime, this was a major reason why Magic Beast Art did not spread.

And of course, even genius magicians have a limited lifespan, 1 died, 2 died, and gradually the number of people decreased.

The glowing orb in front of his eyes was the last survivor of the organization, but even his life was nearing its end. He couldn't stand that the Magic Beast Art that they had invented would vanish just like that. However, there wasn't a person in that world that could learn the Magic Beast Art. Then, what about other worlds? With that idea in mind, the glowing orb had used all his magic and life force to execute this last art. He created a spiritual world between worlds and for several hundred years, searched for a soul with the qualifications to inherit the Magic Beast Art. And Reiji's soul was caught in it.

「I see. I roughly understand the circumstances.....By the way, what would happen if I refused?」

「There's nothing I can do. You will continue in this state to the afterlife and obtain a new life.」

「Then say, what happens if I inherit the Magic Beast Art?」

「In that case, I will become a catalyst for you and I will bestow a new body to you.」

Hearing the words of the glowing orb, Reiji's glowing orb began to flicker and move.

「.....Wait a moment, I think I missed something you said. Firstly, what do you mean by catalyst? 」

「It's as I said. It's a necessary procedure to pass my knowledge to you.」

「That is, it? Will I get a feeling of being fused with you?」

「No. I'm only a catalyst to the end. My knowledge will be absorbed by you and afterwards I will disappear. However, you won't change when you absorb me. You are the main core, although there will be some changes.」

At the very minimum, his personality would remain intact, Reiji unintentionally gave a a sigh of relief. Moving on to the next question.

「What about the new body?」

「You have lost your own body in your world.」

From the glowing orb's words, he remembered the the steel frame looming in front of his eyes. It was certainly crushed by the steel frame, Reiji was easily able to imagine that his body wasn't in a decent state.

「Well, that is true.」

「Therefore, I will fix your soul to a new body that my organization created, using the best magic and techniques.」

「I understand, a new body.」

「Also, after you inherit the Magic Beast Art, I will cease to exist. Therefore, everything, magic tools and precious materials, that my organization has gathered will be yours.」

「The legacy of several hundred years of the world's most powerful magicians, is it. A perfect start. But, what happens to my magic power with a new body?」

「There won't be any problems. Magic power is provided by the soul, it isn't something that the body possess.」

「In other words, my large magic power will remain unchanged. In that case, why can't you revive yourself with that body?」

「No. My soul and the body have compatibility issues, my soul is already old and worn out. Curiosity and a questioning mind, I have already finished life as a magician as I no longer thirst for the unknown. The knowledge that I pass onto you will tell you. Therefore, I will ask. Do you want to leave, or do you want to inherit our techniques.」

「.....Well, if I refused here, I would just move on to the afterlife. Okay then, I'll be happy to accept your offer.」

The glowing orb flickered in response to Reiji's words.

「Thank you. Then let us begin the fusion.」

「Ah. What should I do?」

「It's not difficult. The preparations have already been set in this space. Fusion will automatically occur if I come in contact with you and you will be reconstructed. Your soul will take hold in your new body and you will awake.」

「I understand.....do it.」

「Mmm. Then I will start the fusion.」

While declaring that, the glowing orb moved close to Reiji.....and they merged.

「Saeki Reji, thank you. I wish you happiness in your new life.」

At the same time the glowing orb said those words, Reiji's consciousness sank into darkness.

Legend Chapter 2

Legend Chapter 2

There was a building deep inside a forest. Although huge trees towered around it, soft sunlight still poured onto the building. There were no signs of life in the building, not even a sign of any living creatures. However, strangely, there was no dust on the floors of the building, it was kept in a very clean state.

And it was in a room, in this building that Reiji.....no, the person that was once called Saeki Reiji, woke up.

「.....Where is this?」

He put his hand on his forehead and thought about it for a few seconds as he looked around. He then nodded as if understanding something.

「I see, I fused with that glowing orb.....ah, I understand now. It certainly was a fusion. I have gained knowledge. And there's no doubt this is still my consciousness」

When Reiji looked at the surroundings, he noticed that he was sleeping in a bed. A magic formation had been drawn on the floor, he guessed that the body had been in stasis until some kind of magic had been used a few minutes ago. He got up and wore the clothes that were beside the bed.

「I say, I wonder what this new body is like?」

According to the knowledge he gained, the glowing orb's name seemed to have been Zepairu Zondo. Reiji found a tub of water and looked at the reflection to see the body Zepairu had prepared.

A boy's face with bright red hair was reflected. It was well shaped and there were no problems with the features, if anything, it could be called beautiful. As for the eye colour, in contrast with the red hair, they were blue. His height was about 165cm, and judging by his face, he looked about 15. As Reiji was 17 in his world, he had grown younger by about 2 years.

「However, based from the knowledge I received from Zepairu, this is an outrageous body.」

According to the knowledge Reiji had received from Zepairu.....this body was something that Zepairu and his organization had created with the best of their magic and techniques. Because the organization had disappeared due to the aging of its members, the body had been subjected to treatment that gave it have eternal youth. Of course, it required a certain level or higher of magic power was required to maintain it.

Though the body had eternal youth, it wasn't immortal. Even with the world's best magicians gathered, it seems that it wasn't possible to reach humanity's dream of true immortality. It was likely that this was their substitute. With the body's marvelous recovery power, its physical strength seemed to be considerable high.

「Well, I'll leave those things for the time being.」

The performance of his body was pulled out from his knowledge. After gaining an approximate understanding, he then poured water from a jug on a table into a wooden cup, and drank it in one gulp.

He suddenly noticed something while quenching his throat with the water.

「Come to think of it, this water is also several hundred years old.」

While saying so, he poured water from the jug into his empty cup again. If the words of Zepairu were correct, he had stayed inside the spiritual world at the intersection between worlds and became a glowing orb for several hundred years in order to find a successor to the Magic Beast Art. This body, the water, clothes and the bed must have been prepared by Zepairu before he became a glowing orb. If it was the organization that had gathered the best magicians, then it might be possible to keep everything in a fresh state, the thought came straight to Reiji.

The water was fresh enough that if it was said that it had been drawn from a mountain spring, it would have been believable. Although Reiji lived in the rural Tohoku area and was able to drink fresh water, he felt that there was a difference between heaven and earth when compared with this water. The remainder of the delicious water was finished after he drank a few more cups.

「For now, let's take a look around this building.」

Though he roughly understood where everything was from Zepairu's knowledge, in the end, it was only what Zepairu knew. He wanted to see with his own eyes to make sure.

In the bedroom where Reiji had been sleeping in, there was a bed, table, chairs, a jug and a cup.

「Hmm? This.....」

As he looked around the room, Reiji's eyes caught a picture that had been hung on the wall of the bedroom. 12 people, young and old, were drawn in it.

Earth magic, water magic, wind magic, light magic, darkness magic, space-time magic, void magic, summoning magic, alchemy, numerology and ancient magic. There were 12 people led by Zepairu, who used fire magic. The organization which was said to be able to destroy a country in a few hours was, from the knowledge Zeipairu had given Reiji, made up of the magicians depicted in the painting.

However, Reiji wasn't only fascinated by the painting. It was the clothes worn by the person in the painting who used numerology. It was a black school uniform that every junior and senior high school student in Japan wore, additionally, the person in question had black hair and the eyes and features of a Japanese.

「Takumu Suzuno. Numerology master, is it. No matter how I think about it, he's a fellow countryman.」

From Zepairu's knowledge, the person named Takumu Suzuno had the characteristic of eternal youth. Reiji's improved body was created by incorporating the physical characteristics of Takumu Suzuno and the teaching knowledge of Zepairu.

「In that case, excluding Takumu Suzuno and I, are there any other Japanese who came to this world.....I wonder?」

He thought about it for a few seconds but rejected the idea and shook his head immediately.

Even if other Japanese had come to this world to begin with, Aside from his consciousness, he himself wasn't Japanese anymore. The most he could do would be to talk with that person and reminiscence.

「If he had eternal youth, then why did he die?」

That was worrisome, he pulled out more knowledge again.

According to his knowledge, it seems that he was poisoned after being caught in the power struggles of the major powers. Although he was able to escape to Zepairu afterwards, detoxification wasn't able to be carried out in time.....that was what had happened.

「Well, I guess it's normal in the world of nobility. That can happen if you get caught in the power struggle.」

On a side note, the numerology that Takumu Suzuno used was an original magic he invented, nobody seemed to be able to use it aside from him. It's ability was to express objects numerically, it wasn't a magic suited for combat.

「I see. It's similar to a game where relationships are appraised and analysed with magic.」

TLN: Think of it as a magic that allow you to tell which things would work better together. For those that read King Shura, think of the MC.

This seems to have been a completely unknown type of magic in this world, but to Reiji, who loved sub cultures, it was a somewhat understandable ability.

「Well then, for the time being, this room is fine. Next is the laboratory.」

With a pattering sound, he walked barefoot and opened the door of the bedroom. Perhaps the building itself was maintained by magic, not a single speck of dust could be found on the floor.

「This.....the time of the building is stopped by space-time magic.」

He advanced through the corridors while checking Zepairu's knowledge. To begin with, this

building was used as a base to find a successor to the Magic Beast Art after Zepairu became the last member of the organization and was made quite packed. Because of this, it took him a few minutes to arrive at the laboratory from the bedroom.

On the door of the laboratory『Those who open this door without the qualifications of the Magic Beast Art will be hit by a spell』was written on the door plate.

「.....At the very least, I can read this worlds characters thanks to the fusion.」

He muttered while looking at the characters on the plate.

According to Zepairu's knowledge, it seems that those who did not have the magical power to become the successor of the Magic Beast Art would be thoroughly incinerated by fire if they tried to open the door.

「It's a pretty extreme security.」

He murmured as he quietly laughed at the sign. Reiji gently reached out to the door knob. Even though he got the endorsement of Zepairu as the successor of the Magic Beast Art, it seemed best to be cautious.

However, his extended hand unceremoniously came in contact with the door knob, and the door opened so easily that he was amazed.

「.....Phew.」

While exhaling in relief, he entered the laboratory.

Compared with the bedroom, the laboratory was much wider. In terms of Reiji's senses the room was about 30 tatamis. In the back half of the room, a huge magic formation was drawn. In the half of the room near the entrance, a variety of equipment and books, assumed to be used for experiments and as references, was left untouched. However, a fine jewelry box was also placed on the table, it was the only one in the vicinity.

TLN: 30 Tatamis = $\sim 50\text{m}^2$

「Well, its a jewelry box. I wonder what I'll find inside.」

He approached the jewelry box quietly while muttering and opened the lid.

「A bracelet, is it?」

He took it out from the jewelry box. It was a bracelet about 10cm in diameter. There was no doubt that the bracelet had a specific use.

He looked at the mysterious bracelet in his hands. Taking a look it, the bracelet was simple. The jewelry box was a fine piece of work and seems to have been specially crafted, it must be expensive.

A sense of discomfort crossed his head. Why would a simple looking bracelet be kept in such an expensive jewelry box. If you thought about it, it normally wouldn't happen. In other words, there was something to this bracelet. To determine that, Reiji pulled out Zepairu's knowledge to understand.

「Indeed, this thing is worth more than a billion jewels.」

According to Zepairu's knowledge, this bracelet seems to be a kind of item storage. The best space magician and the best alchemist in Zepairu's organization, Liza Flow and Esta Nord, with the cooperation of the numerologist Takumu, had crafted this with the best of their techniques. The magic tools and valuable materials that Zepairu had mentioned were all collected in it. Its name was Misty Ring.Called ring even though it was a bracelet? He thought, but it was probably a hobby of the creator of the magic item or something like that.

A smile floated onto Reiji's face, he placed the Misty Ring back into the jewelry box and walked to the magic formation at the back of the room.

「This is the magic formation for the Magic Beast Art, is it.」

Magic Beast Art. Reiji already knew what kind of magic it was when he pulled it from Zepairu's knowledge.

When an incantation was said in the center of the magic formation, it absorbed magic power from the caster. A Magic Beast is produced from the absorbed magic power. In addition, the result cannot be chosen because the caster's magic power determines the mind, personality, tastes, psyche and other various things about the magic beast in a complex manner.

It could be said that the secret principles it operated by were only known by Zepairu's organization. However, the magic beast produced always held a certain characteristic. Namely, there was a magic stone inside the magic beast. If a magic beast devoured another magic stone, it would become stronger, more powerful and evolve faster. Its evolution had an infinite variety depending on the type of magic stone that was devoured. It could possibly be said that there were infinite possibilities. At the end of its evolution, there wasn't an end to it theoretically. But a person who had brought up a magic beast to that stage has not existed.

That is to say, in other words, the Magic Beast Art produces a magic beast that grows with you.

Still, because the magic power that the magic formation absorbs is so large, a normal magician would have his vitality and life absorbed.

Once again, drawing out the knowledge of the Magic Beast Art, he took a deep breath and stepped into the magic formation.

「There is the contract with Zepairu, and above all I'm interested in this Magic Beast Art. Thinking about it though, I thought I would be more careful.....is it the influence of the

fusion?」

This might be the changes Zepairu mentioned before the fusion. Reji thought in his head while concentrating on the incantation.

Because the incantation to activate the magic formation was present in Zepairu's knowledge, there was no hesitation.

『We, those who create magic beasts with magic power. Living with the magic beast. I use my magic power, to manifest the magic beast that sleeps within me. It lives with me, it dies with me. Show me it's appearance!』

Putting magical power to words, namely incantations. What an ascetic would have taken several years of practice to do, Reiji, who inherited Zepairu's knowledge, pulled off without any deviation. The amount of magic power Zepairu, a magician at the peak, had put to these words surprised him.

Then, the magic formation that Reiji had stepped into, began to shine, gradually lighting up. The light absorbed the huge magic power that was emitted from Reiji and grew even brighter. However, naturally, even if Reiji was said to have a vast magical power, magic power isn't infinite. The magic formation continued to shine for 5 minutes, 10 minutes, 20 minutes.

「Gueh!」

Eventually his limit approached, he dropped to one knee. The next moment, the part of the magic formation that had been shining gave off a sudden sharp brightness.....then the luminescence of the formation abruptly disappeared.

「I-Is it.....done?」

The magic power in the vicinity had been absorbed to its limits by the magic formation. Reiji looked around with his light-headed consciousnesses and caught sight of something with a black luster. It was like a cocoon and had a jet black colour. The cocoon started to crack.....the moment broke, Reiji's consciousness sunk into darkness. Just before Reiji fainted, he felt something warm and feathery.『Gururu~』a spoiled voice sounded. And with that sound, he fell to the floor.

Legend Chapter 3

Legend Chapter 3

「Gurururu~」

Hearing this sound, Reiji woke up touching a strange, warm, feathery coat.

「.....Haa?」

He took a look around while rubbing his head. The first thing that entered his eyes was an abundant coat of feathers. Whoever the feathers belonged to had laid them down as a body pillow for Reiji, as if to protect him.

Then he noticed. He looked straight ahead while stroking the feathers. A presence looked back into Reiji's eyes, staring at his face anxiously.

「.....」

「.....」

Each of them slowly and carefully stared at each other's face in silence.

A sharp, black beak as well as a pair of blue pupils were reflected in Reiji's eyes. The blue eyes confirmed the state of Reiji somewhat anxiously.

It had the same eyes as his own. The next moment, it moved in right in front of Reiji's eyes. In other words, the bird had snuggled its head up to his face.

「Guru~」

This gesture, like a pampered cat, made him instinctively pet its head while smiling.

He then continued to pet its head a bit more. While petting the bird's head, Reiji unintentionally stopped and looked at it in its entirety.

「Guru~?」

What's wrong? The bird seemed to say as it tilted its head to one side. He directed his line of sight to where it was leaning. The feathers that he had expected were not there, instead there was a thick, silky fur. Lion.....is what he thought, it was like a lion's body. However, the forefeet were sharp like the claws of a raptor. Raptor with a lion's body.....no, eagle's head and forefeet, though they were folded, there were wings growing from the body. Reiji knew the name of this mythical beast.

「Griffon.」

「Guru~」

That was the correct answer, he rubbed the eagle head as he said that. As he murmured, Reiji was finally able to recall why he had fainted.

「I see, I completed the ritual for the Magic Beast Art.....in other words , this Griffon is my magic beast.」

When he understood the existence of the Griffon, he once again turned his gaze back to the magic beast. The body of the lion was filled of a sense dynamism, the face of the eagle was both adorable and sharp. Without its wing folded out, its size was about 2m.

Naturally, the Griffon from Reiji's memory was something he knew from games and novels. To his knowledge, griffons were ferocious and aggressive . However, the Griffon in front of him wasn't like that at all. Rather than that, when rubbing its face, instead of looking ferocious, it looked more like a kitten

「Maybe it is different from other griffons because it was created with the Magic Beast Art.」
「Guru~」

When he muttered that, with good timing, the Griffon gave a cry from the depth of its throat.

「.....Do you understand my words?」
「Guru~」

As he guessed, the Griffon crowed again.

「Wait a minute.」

He brought out Zepairu's knowledge while stroking the Griffon's head.

According to it, the ability of the magic beast produced varied depending on the amount of magic power absorbed by the magic formation. In other words, the friendly Griffon's high ability was because of Reiji's vast magical power. Even if it was limited, it might have the ability to understand human speech.

「I see, I've roughly understood.....First of all, lets give you a name.」

For some reason, the Griffon had been looking at Reiji with wanting eyes since the beginning. According to the procedure of the Magic Beast Art, the existence of the magic beast is only established after it is given a name.

「Griffon, sky, storm.....how about Set?」

Set. It was the name of a god that appeared in Egyptian mythology, it was a god that governed storms. Moreover, according to the description Reiji knew, it was a god that symbolized great strength and governed fighting and war.

Looking at the Griffon before his eyes, whose existence was to protect him, Reiji associated it with that name.

「Gurururu~」

The griffon let out a happy sound from its throat as it heard the origin of Set.

「Right. From today on, you are Set. I am Reiji.....No, it should be different. That was my previous name.」

He thought about it while petting Set's head. The person known as Saeki Reiji had been crushed by a steel frame and died. Here, the person was a fusion of Saeki Reiji and Zepairu. No matter if Reiji was still the major personality, using the name Saeki Reiji carried a sense of incongruity. Moreover, according to Zepairu's knowledge, he understood that the name Saeki Reiji was not suitable in this world called Elgin.

「Reiji.....that's right, from now on, my name is Rei. Nice to meet you, Set. My name is Rei」
「Gururu~」

The moment he said that and Set answered, a list of skills came to the surface of his mind.

「This is, what?」

Words suddenly appeared in his mind. From Rei's senses, it was similar to the status screen of a game.Familiar things like STR or power were not displayed, instead it was split between skills and their descriptions. The name displayed on it was not Reiji or Rei but Set.

He pulled out Zepairu's knowledge in a hurry.

「.....Indeed, this is the work of Takumu.」

It seems that the skill list had been added by Takumu when the Magic Beast Art was being created. He was able to display the skills that Set had learned from eating magic stones. As expected from something that had spread from Japan. By the way, the only item in this room to have the feature where a list was displayed in his mind when you thought about it was Misty Ring.

「Well, it's a convenient thing to have.」

With much trouble, he had come to a different world. Smiling wryly at the situation, with the subtle scent of Japan lingering, he stood up with Set.

「Gururu」

Set then held out an elongated object in his beak to Rei. The object had been hidden in his shadow.

「This is.....a scythe?」

Scythe, and not one for cutting grass. The length of the handle was about 2m, the length of its blade was 1m, it was suitable to be called the scythe of death.

「Well, what should I do with this?」
「Guru~」

This is yours, it seemed say as it presented the scythe in its beak to Rei.

Because it didn't seem right to make Set keep holding it, he received the large scythe.

The handle was black, the blade was also black. Basically the large scythe in his hands had a jet black colour. Then he suddenly remembered.

「This scythe wasn't here when I entered the laboratory. In other words it must have appeared unnoticed.....There is one possibility though.」

How many times would it be today. Once again, he pulled out Zepairu's knowledge and the result was found at once.

「The Magic Beast Art is the cause again, is it.」

According to Zepairu's knowledge, a vast magical power is discharged during the course of making the magic beast. In other words, when more magic than is needed to create the magic beast is released, the surplus magic power seems to produce a magic item. Of course, it was Takumu who had added this with his magic.

However, when Zepairu and his organization used it, all the magic power released went to making the magic beast, apparently a magic item had never been produced. In other words, it was a function Takumu added in for fun. It finally showed its effect due to Rei's massive magic power.

「So, it became like this because Takumu was involved.....」

With the large scythe in hand, Rei muttered 'status' in his mind. The status of the magic item naturally appeared in his head.

『Death Scythe』

「Eh, it has the same name as the grim reaper's scythe. That feels dark, can't it be changed a little?」

That said, he could not complain to Takumu, who no longer existed in the world. Reading the description of the Death Scythe, he gave a dispirited sigh.

First ability, magic casting. Because it was a magic item made with Rei's enormous magic power, its performance was extremely high.

Second ability, like Set, it could obtain new effects by absorbing magic stones. It was also possible to simultaneously learn the same abilities that Set did.

Third ability, weight reduction. Only for the person who has the same magic wavelength as the Death Scythe. In other words Rei and Set could use the Death Scythe without feeling its weight.

Fourth ability, the basic performance of the large scythe would increase if supplied with

magic power.

This was the status list that was displayed in his mind.

「This, to be honest, has to be pretty rare?」

「Guru~」

You're right, Set seemed to cry.

「With the effect of magic casting, it certainly is good. It's good but.....usually, shouldn't there be a sword? Why is it a large scythe?」

A magic weapon of expert quality was overwhelming but it seemed difficult to use. That was what Rei felt about the Death Scythe.

「I obtained this powerful magic item with much trouble, I guess there's nothing I can do but master it.」

He lifted the Death Scythe, the effect of weight reduction could immediately be felt.

Originally, a piece of metal this size should have weighed 10kg to 20kg. However, right now, Rei could barely feel the weight of the Death Scythe. It felt like it only weighed 100g.

TLN: Yeah no, as an engineer, 20kg felt a little off, based on it's size it should weigh closer to 80kg if it was made of steel.

「This is certainly amazing.」

「Guru」

Set also agreed, giving a deep cry.

「Now, the biggest goal was to safely inherit the Magic Beast Art.....what do I do from now on?」

Rei muttered while petting Set's silk like fur. After achieving his goal, he understood that he couldn't stay in this building in the future. Aside from drinking water, there was only enough food for 10 days. If he didn't leave for a village or town as soon as possible, the result would be the successor to the Magic Beast Art dying of hunger on the side of a road.

「No, that doesn't include the amount of food Set has to eat.」

Even if you say that it was created by the Magic Beast Art, it still needed food to live. Given that Set was over 2m in size, they probably only enough food for one day. Even at best, there was only two days of food left.

「With that said, it's necessary to go to a town or village as soon as possible but.....」

According to Zepairu's knowledge, a ward using spatial magic was set up to prevent monsters from getting in, there seemed to be a lot of brutal monsters around the forest. If

asked why they built a mansion in such a place, it was because this place was like a refuge for Zepairu. Therefore, a strong ward was set up in order to prevent vicious monsters from getting in, which was why there weren't any monsters near the mansion. Moreover, it took advantage of the monsters outside to defend against enemies.

「Though that's good, I wonder if I, a beginner in a fantasy world, can get out of forest where monsters live.....just thinking about it.」

As he muttered while grumbling, Rei unconsciously let out a sigh.

「Gururu~」

With a flapping sound, Set extended his wings to 2m, Rei lightly shook his head.

「It's a little difficult to fly through the sky. Anyway, it seems even dragons have settled here.」

「Guru~」

「Don't worry about it. To begin with I don't know how much power you and I have.」

He said that to comfort Set while stroking its head.

「It would have been good if Takumu had made other things aside from skills visible in the status.....But I can't do it. No, wait a moment? Maybe there's a magic item we can use in Misty Ring.」

As Rei said that, he moved with Set to the jewelry box that held Misty Ring.

「Gurururu~」

When he saw the jewelry box, Set let out a happy cry. Rei, who saw that appearance, remembered a legend that Griffons collected treasure.

「Set, you may play with the jewelry box for a while.」

「Guru~」

At Rei's words, Set joyfully rubbed his cheek against the jewelry box. While watching the scene with a smile, he put the Misty Ring on his right arm. The Misty Ring, which used to be quite large, shrunk to Rei's arm size, fitting perfectly.

「Um, to display the list.....ah, you only have to think it.」

A huge list of items and materials came into his mind, there were a lot of names on the list. However, as Rei scrolled through the list, he involuntarily put his hand to his head.

「There certainly are magic items made from potent materials and likely have strong effects. But is there any food or something? There are the bones of a dragon, the horns of a elder devil, can you eat the tail of a salamander? Come to think of it, if they planned to find a successor to the Magic Beast Art, they should have prepared food for Set.」

To break the status quo and find the magic items necessary, it seemed there was no other way but to use Zepairu's knowledge. As a result, he found what was called the『Orb of Examination』. It could be used to check the magic aptitude of the user.

Rei was declared by Zepairu to have one of the world's highest magic powers. He took it out from Misty Ring to check what magic he was suitable for as well as his magic aptitude.

「If I can use water magic, then I won't be troubled with drinking water, hopefully I'm compatible with it. After that maybe spatial magic or alchemy if it can increase the properties of magic items. 」

He put his hand to the orb while imagining his magic aptitude. The symbol of his magic characteristic appeared on the orb. For example, if a water droplet was displayed, it meant that Rei would have the water magic compatibility he wanted. A door represented spatial magic. A flask symbolized alchemy.

In the end, only one symbol was reflected in Rei's expectant eyes, the symbol of a flame.

Legend Chapter 4

Legend Chapter 4

「Wait. Wait a moment.」

Looking at the results displayed on the Orb of Examination, Rei unintentionally opened his mouth.

「Guru~?」

Set, who had been admiring the jewelry box a bit further away, felt something, turned around and directed his sight at Rei.

Rei noticed it and shook his head slightly at Set while involuntarily covering his face with his hand.

「My magic aptitude is only fire? Is that it? Is it because I fused with Zepairu, a fire magician?」

While muttering like that, Rei found that it was different from what he thought. According to Zepairu's knowledge, he had definitely called himself a fire magician. However, he only identified himself as such only because it was what he was best at, it didn't mean he didn't use other magic. Though he didn't master all of them, he could also use, wind magic, space-time magic, alchemy, summoning magic and ancient magic.

「In other words, my aptitude is specialized purely in fire magic.....is it?」

His magic power at which even Zepairu marveled. He would no doubt become a great war potential with strength and specialization in fire magic. But,

「A novice fire magician like me using fire magic in a forest?」

So, that was the problem. Naturally, if you are a fire magician, you manipulate fire. And fire can spread to the surrounding forest. If he made a mistake in the scale of magic, with his magic power and fire magic, there was a possibility he could burn down the entire forest. Rei and Set's skills were also poor.

「Among earth, water, fire and wind, other than fire, you can safely use the rest in a forest.....ugh, this isn't the time to think about that. No matter what, we will be forced to leave the mansion tomorrow, we can do nothing more that use what we have at hand.」

Even if there was normally enough food for 10 days, that was if you only counted Rei. With Set having a body in excess of 2m, the food would only last several meals. They would starve to death if they remained here. Therefore, the conclusion Rei reached was to head out tomorrow and get to a village or town as soon as possible.

「In that case, first I need to confirm whether I can use magic properly.」

From the inherited knowledge of Zepairu, there was enough information for Rei to master fire magic. But, that is only Zepairu's knowledge, not Rei's knowledge. First of all, magic is more dependent on the person's qualities and mental visualization. If he trusted Zepairu's knowledge too much, there was the possibility of making an irreversible mistake in the case of an emergency.

「Gurururu~」

「Ah, go over there Set. It's magic practice.」

Rei answered Set's questioning cry and stepped away from the magic formation, stopping a little distance from it.

From the knowledge he was taught, the magic formation on the floor would not react except to anything except the Magic Beast Art, however, he still was cautious.

Grasping the Death Scythe, he triggered its magic casting effect. Then he took a deep breath to concentrate his mind. He was naturally able to recognize the magic power in his body.

Using an incantation put magic power to words, tricking the world and temporarily rewriting it, it's an art to produce the results of one's desires. Because of this, the incantation is different depending on the magician, it is near impossible to achieve the result even if the same incantation as the other magician was used. More than that, earth, water, fire, wind, light, darkness, other than their basic differences, the principle remained the same, this also applied for the fire magic Rei had aptitude for.

『Fire, gather on my fingertips.』

Uttering an incantation, magic power is put to words . The importance of this is in the visualization. Even if the process of rewriting the world with the incantation is the same, the clearer the visualization of the outcome, the greater the effect. For Rei who like subcultures such as novels, manga, anime, movies and games, visualizing images of that kind was not difficult for him.

The laws of the world are rewritten by the incantation, an example was Rei's visualization.

『Small Flame』

With the visualization fixed by the incantation, a fist sized flame appeared on the index finger of his right hand.

「.....Right. The first magic in my life, it's a success.」

To be precise, the Magic Beast Art was his first magic Rei used in his life, but the Magic Beast Art only absorbed the caster's magic power when an incantation was said on a particular magic formation that had been drawn on this floor. It was a magic almost done automatically to produce a magic beast. The fire magic that Rei had used was from beginning to end something he carried out at his own will and could be called the first magic that he used in his life.

「Fire magic is usable without any problems.....However, using higher level magic than this is slightly difficult. I may burn the entire mansion down if I make a mistake. I must definitely avoid burning the Magic Beast Art formation at all costs.」

He glanced at the other half of the room. He turned his gaze to the magic formation drawn in the center.

「Gururu~」

Set, seeing Rei's appearance, approached with light steps that seemed to carry no weight and rubbed its eagle like face against Rei's face.

「What, are you concerned?」

「Guru~」

「Well see, I can't practice more magic than this.....」

Rei gently petted Set's head while saying so. Looking at his arm while petting, he noticed that there was still something to be done.

「I mustn't forget to choose some equipment. There is no sense in not equipping equipment you have, just like in games.」

While stroking Set's neck with his left hand, he displayed a list of the items contained in Misty Ring in his mind.

「.....It's a bit hard to search. No, wait. Perhaps.」

Next to the Dragon Fang was a magic recovery potion, under that were meteorite fragments and the roots of a Mandrake. Rei involuntarily grimaced at the sloppy organization of the item list, he recalled that the creator of the Misty Ring was Takumu and thought of 『Sort』 hoping it would work.

「That was it after all.」

The next moment, the list that had been displayed in his mind was categorized by type and updated.

「As expected of Takumu.」

If it played like a game then it was a natural function, Misty Ring adapted to the expected form wonderfully.

「Weapons are not going to be a problem because there is Death Scythe, in that case protective gear.」

When looking for protective gear on the list in his mind, he immediately stopped scrolling when he saw the name of one of the items.

『Dragon Robe』

It was blatantly expensive sound to it, in addition it seemed to have a high performance. He explored Zepairu's knowledge in a hurry.

The robe was made from the skins of dragons that had lived several hundred years. Because it was finished by coating it in dragon's blood and dragon powered bones, it boasted an unprecedented magic defense. More than that, the robe was made by layering two pieces of dragon skin with dragon scales placed between the two skins. The physical defense was also considerably high. Because the skins used were from a fire dragon and water dragon, it was cool inside if it was hot outside and warm inside if it was cold outside. And finally, the alchemist who made this robe, Esta Nord, the alchemist of Zepairu's organization, attached some effects such as concealment to the high performance magic item.

TLN: The concealment effect of the Dragon Robe means that other people will see it as an ordinary robe.

He was surprised at the high physical and magic defenses, however, what really surprised Rei was that it was air conditioned if he wore it.

「This will be good as temporary protection.」

He selected the Dragon Robe in his mind, the next moment a black robe appeared on his right.

「With this, the weapon and protective gear are okay. Then, next are shoes.」

When he viewed the footwear category, like the time with the Dragon Robe, his eyes stopped at one item.

『Shoes of Sleipnir』

Sleipnir was a monstrous horse with eight legs. It's speed was the highest out of the monsters that ran on the ground, it should be noted that it could also run in the sky. The shoes were made from the leather of this monster. It had an effect of increasing the speed of whoever wore it, it was also possible to jump and kick the air to stay in the sky for a few seconds.

「With this, the shoes are picked.」

As with the Dragon Robe, Shoes of Sleipnir were taken out from Misty Ring and placed on the floor.

「Guru~」

Set watched with round eyes as each item was taken out from Misty Ring, he abruptly rubbed his head against Rei.

「Hmm? What, do you also want some equipment?」

「Gururu~」

「Wait a moment. What would be good for Set to equip.....」

While scratching Set's head, he displayed Misty Ring's item list in his mind and took out several items that looked good.

『Bracelet of Wind Manipulation』

When equipped, it can block a single magic spell. It cannot display its effect again for 10 hours after its use.

『Bracelet of Herculean Strength』

A bracelet to increase the strength of the user.

『Bracelet of Magic Absorption』

If the user attacks and damages an enemy, magical power proportional to the damage done is absorbed from the enemy.

『Love of Shizukuishi』

A pendant shaped like a water drop. Zepairu's organization's alchemist, Esta Nord, processed a Unicorn Magic Stone using alchemy. It gives the equipped a continuous recovery effect.

TLN: Shizukuishi is a town in Japan

「Well, these things. Set, which one is good?」

After hearing Rei's words Set seemed to enter a state of thought. While making some sounds, he lifted up the Bracelet of Wind Manipulation, Bracelet of Herculean Strength and the Love of Shizukuishi in his beak.

Rei stroked Set's neck and involuntarily gave a wry smile as he saw the situation.

「3 is it.....Well, maybe my companion, Set, needs that much equipment. The pendent can worn around the neck, but what about the two bracelets?」

「Guru~」

With a small cry, he held out his left and right eagle like forefeet.

「This.....will it fit, I wonder?」

No matter how one looked at it, the feet were larger than the bracelet. While thinking so, he judged that it would be okay because it was a magic item and brought the Bracelet of Wind Manipulation near the right foot, the bracelet changed its size when it was brought near and the Bracelet of Herculean Strength was also nicely fitted onto the left foot.

Magic items indeed, while admiring that, he finished lastly by placing Love of Shizukuishi over Set's neck.

「Gurururu~」

Magic items that he had received from his master, Rei. Set rubbed his head against Rei while letting out a happy cry.

Afterwards, Rei equipped the remaining bracelet on his left arm and their equipment preparations were completed.

Death Scythe, a weapon made from the Magic Beast Art. Dragon Robe, protective gear made from dragon skin. Shoes of Sleipnir for his feet. Misty Ring on his right wrist and Bracelet of Magic Absorption on his left. The person himself was not aware but, including the magic items that Set was equipped with, in this world they would be called super top quality items.

「Gurururu~」

As Rei looked at the equipped items with satisfaction, the sad voice of Set brought him back.

「What's wrong?」

「Guru~」

Even for a magic beast made with Rei's magic power, it wasn't able to speak. However, the nuances were generally understood.

「Gururu~」

While crying sadly again, Set rubbed his head against Rei's belly. In this state, Rei finally felt like he understood what Set was trying to say.

「Are you hungry?」

「Guru~」

Set nodded, he was complaining of hunger. Rei then noticed himself that he was pretty hungry.

「Come to think of it, I haven't eaten since I got up. Well I'm also hungry. Then, lets go to the dinning room. It will be the last meal before we leave.」

「Guru~」

Rei, along with Set, left the laboratory and headed towards the cafeteria.

On a side note, even though Set boasted a considerable size and length at 2m, it was possible to leave through the laboratory door as it was designed on the premise that people who entered would use the Magic Beast Art. Afterwards, some dry, boring, black bread that was left in the kitchen was soaked in water and eaten. Set and Rei were tired after finishing the lacking dinner and fell asleep in the bedroom.

Legend Chapter 5

Legend Chapter 5

Despite the huge trees around the building, the fresh morning light still streamed in for some reason. Because it was in the morning, the surrounding air was very clear. If there was a person who wanted to walk through the forest to relax, here would be a great place. However, only if you could get here.

Rei had taken a step out of the building with Set to check the state of the surroundings.

「According to Zepairu's knowledge, the barrier should extend about 100m from the center of the building.....probably.」

「Gururu~」

Set nodded to Rei's words.

「If we take even one step outside the barrier, it will already be a monster paradise.....Are we prepared?」

The Death Scythe had been put on his shoulder, it could be shifted to his right hand to be used at any time.

「Gururu~!」

Set raised a cry that was full of fighting spirit. One person and one animal advanced while relying on the other. After walking for about 3 minutes, a thin film attached to the building came into view.

「So this is the barrier. Though it is nerve racking to go out.....the other decision is to starve to death.」

Yes, the food that was supposed to last him 10 days had already been finished after this morning's breakfast. 10 days worth of food had been exhausted in 2 meals. Rei was wary of the surroundings while Set was prepared to protect Rei at any time.

Originally Rei had wanted to keep several pieces of bread with him to eat in the forest. However, he was defeated by Set's sad, sorrowful eyes because of hunger. The last pieces of bread were in Set's stomach.

「.....Well, but you know. I'll need to find a job as soon as possible to earn money for future food expenses. Are there adventurers or something like that here?」

According to Zepairu's knowledge, there seems to be an adventurer guild, however there won't be a guild branch office if the town isn't big enough. In other words, in order to earn money for Set's food, he had to leave the forest and go to a big city as soon as possible.

「If you only think about Set's meals, I wonder if we could defeat some monsters and eat the meat. Fortunately, Set is a magic creature so everything he eats is converted to magic power

and doesn't enter the body, the worry of having to go to toilet is unnecessary.」

However, in that case, the living expenses of Rei are brought up. There is the method of selling the nails, skin and other materials that Set doesn't eat at a corner stall. That said, the best method was still to leave the forest and find a town with an adventurer guild branch office and work as an active adventurer.

Rei confirmed his determination again, and with Set, took one step outside the ward.

「Uwah, seriously.」

As soon as they took one step out of the barrier, there were overwhelmingly dense signs of living creatures. Rei used to live in a country town in Tohoku. Of course there were nearby mountains and a river. Rabbits, squirrels, deer, monkeys, foxes and tanukis, it was not unusual to see wild boars either. If you went to the heart of the mountains, you might find a bear at times. However, Rei was overwhelmed by the signs here in comparison.

「What to say, this truly is a different world.」

Plants such as trees and grass surrounded the periphery of the barrier. It was like people seeing the mountains around Rei's area for the first time.

While sucking in the fresh morning air, he began to walk through the forest with Set.

As expected, after being left alone for several hundred years, the road that was there had disappeared. There was a suitable distance between the large trees which wasn't too hard to walk though. However, for Set who exceeded 2m in size, it felt narrow and he gave a deep growl.

「Gururu~」

Set lightly rubbed his beak against his wings. It seemed that he wanted to fly in the sky instead of being obstructed on the ground.

Rei talked to persuade him while scratching his head.

「Calm down. Although I think I said it yesterday, there are also dragon species living in the forest. If you fly in the sky, they will consider you to be breakfast.」

「Guru~」

Set dejectedly dropped his shoulders at Rei's words. Though his body is big, his patience is still insufficient as it was only the second day since his birth.

They had left the barrier for about 30 minutes. With Rei wearing the Shoes of Sleipnir, which increased his speed, and as Set was a Griffon, they went through the forest at a considerable speed with good time. During this, Rei spotted a tree with what looked like red fruit. He moved in front of the tree and stretched out his hands to take the fruit from the tree.

「I wonder, Set. Do you think I can eat this?」

He asked Set as an apple like, fist sized, red fruit lay in his hands.

「Guru~?」

However, Set didn't understand and only tilted his head to the side.

Rei stared at the red fruit with Set. However, an idea came to mind and smile floated to his face.

「This is a time to use Zepairu's knowledge.」

He brought out the information of the apple like fruit in his hand from Zepairu's knowledge.

『Clara Fruit』

It was a kind of fruit in the forest. It's flesh is delicious and has a sweet-sour taste. However, care must be taken if a Clara Fruit is found. Because it is so delicious, many monsters and beasts like to eat it.

As he read the description, Rei's face cramped.

「Dangerous. Set, for the time being, let's leave here. This fruit is.....」

「Gururururururu~!」

Though Rei immediately started to leave the place, Set was looking to the forest at his right and giving low growls.

「.....Too slow. Ah well, we can't help it, there's no other way. Quietly turn into food for Set and me.」

Rei became calm as his mentality changed in an instant, he held out the Death Scythe after putting away the Clara Fruit into the Misty Ring.

Though the person himself did not notice at all, no excess fear or hesitation to the battle existed in Rei's mind.

「Now then, what will come out? I'll be glad if it is a wild boar or at least not a monster.」

It was a hope that he couldn't really hope for. As for what appeared, it was a bear that was around 2m tall from what he saw. However, with water covering its fur, it was probably a monster and not a wild animal.

「.....」

「.....」

「.....」

For a few seconds, Rei, Set and the bear stared at each others eyes in silence.

It was more or less 2m in size, but it felt larger than Set as it was standing up. It had a discernibly strong build and had water all over its fur. In addition, it had 30cm long and sharp claws extending from its paws, it had a sinister feel to it. Why didn't the water drip down from the fur at the top of his head? Rei thought. It was the Water Bear (tentative name) that broke the silence.

TLN: The (tentative name) was in the raws, I've kept it there in case the author changes the name in future.

「Gaaaaaaaaaaaa~!」

While raising a roar that echoed into the surroundings, it dropped to all fours and attacked Rei and Set.

「Tch, there's no choice. Set, let's do it!」
「Gururu~!」

Ok, Set seemed to say as he raised a sharp cry and moved forward to meet the Water Bear. Rei followed while holding the Death Scythe.

「Gaaa~!」

The Water Bear recognized that his prey had run towards it instead of running away, it bared its 10cm long fangs while moving to swing his claws at Set.

「Gururu~!」

Set avoided the blow by jumping to the side. He kicked against the tree that he had just jumped past and swung his sharp forefeet and the Water Bear in a triangular hop.

With the conspicuous sound, Rei confirmed that the tree that Set had used a step had broken. He held the Death Scythe while wryly smiling at Set's physical strength.....However, he held the scythe with the handle facing outwards. After all, he could hardly swing scythe that boasted a length of 2m in this forest. Therefore, he planned to use part of the handle of the scythe as a spear.

「Gaa~!」

The Water Bear received a blow and was slashed by Set's claws. While raising a growl of agony, it swung its claws down at Set again.

The attack was avoided by jumping back. The Water Bear, which missed its target, lost its balance and staggeredRei aimed at the side of the Water Bear and stabbed out with the Death Scythe.

While making a dull thud, the handle of the Death Scythe penetrated its flank, ignoring the water and fur that was covering the Water Bear.

「Gaaaaa~!」

While frowning as he felt it go through flesh, with its powerful left arm, the Water Bear pulled out the Death Scythe while swinging the claws on his right hand at Rei. The moment the handle was pulled out, the blood of the Water Bear ran out and fell to the surrounding grass. The Water Bear did not mind it and continued to swing his sinister claws.

「Gaaaaaa~!」

The Water Bear roared in surprise and irritation as it was damaged by the small creature before it. The wound wasn't a small one. At the same time, it wasn't a fatal wound given the vitality of a monster.

While observing the Water Bear, Rei could not hide his surprise at his own physical ability. After all, he had stabbed with the handle of the scythe. He didn't think that his blow had a degree of power to cut through the body of the Water Bear like a knife through butter.

(The physical ability of this body seems higher than expected.)

Thinking in his mind, he checked the state of the Water Bear.

「.....What?」

This time, Rei was surprised at the Water Bear. The flank of the Water Bear should have been pierced with the handle, however, it was regenerating at a visible rate, he began to understand the use of the water covered it. To Rei's surprise, after water had flowed into the wound for 10 seconds, the bleeding stopped, even the wound itself disappeared.

「As expected of a monster.....in other words, the only way is to deal heavy damage in a single blow without giving it time to recover or something like that.」

Turning his eyes to the Death Scythe for a moment, he suddenly realized.

(Oops. I forgot the ability of the Death Scythe that increases its power if I give it magic power. As expected it must be the tension of the first battle.....tension?)

Thinking about it, he finally noticed his tension. Though he was tense, he wasn't like recruits and amateurs from novels who wouldn't be able to move their bodies well due to stress.

(This is also a result of the fusion.)

While thinking about that, he glanced at the state of the Water Bear that seemed to be at loss whether to attack Set or Rei.

(Though the Death Scythe has the highest offensive power at hand, it's difficult to swing as there is no room in the forest. While saying that, it's also a bad idea to use fire magic in the forest.)

While considering the possibilities in his head, Set, the Water Bear and Rei, one person and

two animals, were in a stalemate, no one moving carelessly.

If the Water Bear attacked Set, it would be stabbed by Rei. Reversely, if it attacked Rei, it would be slashed by Set.

As for Set and Rei, there was no point in attacking the Water Bear as it would fully recover in about 10 seconds, like the blow that pierced its flank.

In actual fact, when the Water Bear used the water that covered it to regenerate, magic power was consumed, however, it was Rei's first battle and he didn't notice it. If he noticed, there would be a lot of other options.

「Gaaaa~」

「Gururu~」

The Water Bear and Set growled at each other, trying to intimidate the opponent. While watching the situation, Rei desperately worked in his head.

(What to do, should I go for the sink or swim and supply magic power to the Death Scythe? Perhaps with its physical ability it should be able to cut through the bear and the trees around it at the same time.No, I should make that the last resort. What else is there..... should I use fire magic and be prepared for a fire? That wouldn't work. From the knowledge I drew about the forest, the possibility of a fire is no joke.No, wait. A fire? Fire magic? Death Scythe's handle.....!? I got it!)

An idea came, in an instant Rei called out to Set who was glaring at the Water Bear.

「Set, break the stance of the Water Bear like just before! I'll do something afterwards if you can do that!」

「Gururu~!」

Leave it to me, Set gave a cry as it started to move around in a ring to focus the Water Bear's attention on himself.

「Gaaaaa~」

The Water Bear wasn't able to remain indifferent to the situation and gradually diverted its attention from Rei to Set

How much time did it continue for. Although the confrontation felt long to Rei, it had only been a few minutes. The Water Bear wasn't able to put up with the stalemate and gave a loud roar.

「Gaaaaaaaaa!」

At the same time as the roar, the water on the Water Bear's fur came out, it changed into 3 water balls in front of his eyes. The next moment, the water balls shot towards Set.

(Here it is!)

Seeing the state of the Water Bear and Set, Rei judged that it was a turning point in the battle and grasped the handle of the Death Scythe while concentrating his mind and preparing to cast a spell at any time.

3 water balls shot from the Water Bear, tearing through the sky. Set saw that and shortened the distance to the Water Bear, weaving between the trees.

「Gururu!」

One of the water balls hit a tree Set had used as a shield, gouging out the trunk of the tree.

「Gurururu~!」

Set instantly dived to the ground to evade a water ball that was going towards his head. The water ball passed over his head and hit the tree trunks behind him.

「Gururururururu~!」

From his state with his head on the ground, Set used his body as a spring and rushed forward. The distance to the Water Bear was rapidly cut down.

In this state, he attempted to land a blow on the Water Bear before he could be hit by the last water ball.

「Gaaaa~!」

.....It was clear to the Water Bear. Because of that, the Water Bear raised a roar of victory. However,

「Gururururu~!」

Changing its course in the air, the water ball attacked Set from above. But, just before the the blow hit Set, it abruptly exploded as if it hit something.

「Gaa~!?!」

The Water Bear didn't know what happened. Of course, that was natural. One of the bracelets Set had put on was the Bracelet of Wind Manipulation, which could disable all projectile and magic attacks. However, the Water Bear didn't know that there was a limitation and could only be used once every 10 hours. Because of that,

「Gururururururu~!」

Set dived towards the chest of the Water Bear and slashed out with his right forefoot while raising a cry!

「Gaaaa!?!」

Literally lifted off its feet, the Water Bear fell over. This was due to another bracelet Set had equipped, the Bracelet of Herculean Strength, which increased his strength.

Believing in Set, Rei had watched the development of events. At the moment the Water Bear fell over, he started running towards the Water Bear while casting a spell.

『Fire, you are a snake. Therefore, burn my enemy as I desire.』

According to the incantation supplied with magic power, the world was rewritten. As a result, flames gathered around the magic body of the Death Scythe.....

「Hah!」

「Gaa~!？」

As the incantation finished, the handle of the Death Scythe was stabbed into the back of the Water Bear that had fallen over.

『Dance Fire Snake!』

The moment the spell was completed, a snake made of fire was shot out from the handle of the Death Scythe and went forward from the back to the head to burn the Water Bear from the inside.....

「Gaaaaaaaaaaa~!」

Raising a roar filled with fear and pain as its brains were burned, the Water Bear collapsed on the spot.

Legend Chapter 6

Legend Chapter 6

The monster that boasted a huge size of 2m crumpled to the ground with a dull thud that echoed into the surroundings. The the water that originally covered the fur had been completely evaporated by the heat of the flame snake and the fur could no longer be distinguished from the fur of a normal bear.

「Somehow, it worked out.....okay.」
「Guru~」

Rei muttered involuntarily as he sat on the ground. Set, who heard it, pressed his face against Rei as usual. The body of the Water Bear lying on the ground had lost all signs of life.

「You did well too Set. If you weren't there, I may not have been able to easily beat that guy. If I did a bad job, the entire forest may have burned down.....it seemed like that would have happened.」
「Gurururu.」

He scratched Set's head as he praised him. Set was in good spirits as his head was scratched and let out a cat like sound from his throat.

This continued for a few minutes. Rei, who then recovered his breath, stood up.

「Even if I can do something with the corpse of this monster somehow, let's first move away from here. No doubt another monster will come soon.」

In the surroundings, trees had been broken and the ground dug up due to the impact of the fight between Set and the Water Bear. In addition, the smell of burnt meat and blood from the Water Bear was drifting around.

「So, the problem is how do we move this Water Bear.....do we put it on Set's back? No, that would be placing hundreds of kilos on Set.....no, wait? Maybe.....」

Rei's troubled eye caught the Misty Ring that was on his right arm. According to Zepairu's knowledge, living creatures couldn't be put inside, however it seems that there was no problem with the Water Bear because it was already dead.

「Store.」

He said that as he touched the corpse of the Water Bear. The next moment, the corpse of the Water Bear disappeared without a trace. The storage had succeeded as he could find the corpse of the Water Bear on the list in his mind.

「I see, while it can't store living creatures, it can store corpses.....then, this?」

The tree that Set broke when he did the triangle jump, was reflected in Rei's eyes. It was quite a large tree with a 1m diameter trunk.....even with that said, it was still the size of most

trees in the forest.

「Store.」

He said while touching the broken tree. Same as before, in a moment, it disappeared without a trace.

「Guru~」

Let's go quickly, Set's face seemed to say as Rei stroked his back, the reward of the Clara Fruits were stored in the Misty Ring.

「Right, it should be okay if we came here.」

They finally stopped after they walked 20 minutes away from the place where they fought the Water Bear. Normally they wouldn't be able to go that far in 20 minutes, but given the performance of the Shoes of Sleipnir that Rei wore, they moved several times faster than when they normally walked.

The sun had already risen high and bit by bit, the heat had started to spread around.

However, Rei was wearing the Dragon Rove which had a function that automatically maintained the temperature, and the current heat wasn't something that Set minded much. They sat down on the ground to rest, they hadn't stopped moving since the battle with the Water Bear.

「Guru~」

Set gave a cry as his head was petted. In that state, four Clara Fruits that were stored earlier were taken out from the Misty Ring.

「Set.」

「Gururu~」

Set let out a happy sound as Rei stopped petting and held out a Clara Fruit in his hand. Set picked up the Clara Fruit in his beak and ate the whole thing at once.

While watching the situation, Rei also bit into the skin of a Clara Fruit.

A sweet and sour taste spread through his mouth the moment he bit in. When the flesh of the fruit was savored, fresh juice filled his mouth.

It was the first time Rei tasted something like this.Well, because he lived in a country town in Tohoku, he never ate any rare fruits.

At any rate, they ate two of the unexpectedly delicious Clara Fruits each. Next was the dismantling of the Water Bear.

「Set, keep watch for other monsters that may come because of the smell of blood when

the Water Bear is dismantled.」
「Guru～」

Giving a small nod at Rei's words, Set moved a bit further away to keep watch of the surroundings.

While looking at Set's reliable appearance, the body of the Water Bear was taken out of the Misty Ring.

「Now then.....even if I said that, what to do. I haven't dismantled a bear before.」

The most that Rei had done was the dismantling of chickens. His father did cockfights as a hobby and he was made to help strangle the ones that lost.

TLN: While this may seem cruel, please understand that in some countries cockfighting is treated the same way baseball is in America. The sport is not banned in Japan but the roosters used in them are considered a protected species.

「Even if you say its just like a chicken, there's no hot water.」

When you strangle a chicken, the neck and ankles are cut and it is hung on string to drain the blood, after that, hot water is sprayed over it and the feathers plucked. At that time, it becomes easier to pull the feathers off the chicken, and because the feathers are wet, they don't fly around.

He shook his neck while thinking about it.

「In the first place, a chicken can't be used as reference to dismantle a bear because it has no wings or feathers. There's nothing in Zepairu's knowledge about dismantling either. There's no other way, I guess I'll have to learn myself. At a minimum I must not damage the magic stone so that Set can eat it afterwards. The fur.....well, it will be good if I can skin it neatly.」

With a goal tentatively decided, the dismantlement began! The moment he thought that, he noticed that he only had the Death Scythe. Of course, dismantling with a scythe would have a very high degree of difficulty. Rei let out a sigh once more, because there was no helping it, he looked for a knife inside the Misty Ring.

『Mithril Knife』

Mithril Ore has a high magic affinity. This knife was made from the highest quality ore. The sharpness changes depending on the amount of magic power supplied.

(No way, dismantling with a mithril knife.....I wonder what other adventurers would think about that.)

For sure, he would definitely be yelled at. There may also be some people who would burst into tears.

As he was about to insert the knife into the Water Bear, he suddenly withdrew the knife. He recalled that he had not looked up information about the Water Bear from Zepairu's knowledge. Notes about dismantling it and which parts sell at a higher price, the result would come out differently if he knew. But.....

「There's nothing in Zepairu's knowledge?」

Rei muttered quizzically. Although he tried to do something he was familiar with and pull out knowledge of the Water Bear from Zepairu's knowledge, there was no information about the Water Bear at all.

(Then, could this be a new monster that appeared in the few hundred years since Zepairu used magic to send himself to the spirit world?)

Though he wondered in his mind, he had no choice but to judge for himself as there was no knowledge.

Making up his mind, he poured magic power into the mithril knife and inserted it into the side of the Water Bear. Then, as expected of the mithril blade, or maybe because of Rei's surprising magic power, it went through the fur like a blade through water.

「Somehow I'm managing.」

Rei skinned the fur off along the muscle. Of course, as this was his first experience, he made some mistakes such as cutting the fur. However, he succeeded in stripping the fur in a relatively clean state due to the sharpness of the knife.

For the time being, he stored the removed fur into the Misty Ring, then he stabbed the heart of the Water Bear with the knife. As he cut the meat, the blade of the knife bumped into something and he carefully gouged it out.

What came out was a blue crystal the size of Rei's fist. At first glance, it looked like a jewel.

「This is a magic stone. It's blue, the attribute should be water.....well, that's natural.」

Magic stones had different colours based on the attribute of the monster it belonged to. However, there were differences between individuals, it was possible for the same kind of monster to have both wind magic stones or fire magic stones. With that said, the Water Bear is a simple example.

「It's not necessary to take too much care after removing the magic stone. Let's just cut it into pieces for Set and I to eat.....」

By pouring magic power into the mithril knife, it can easily cut through bone.

The dismantlement of the bear was completed in a few minutes. Now, before Rei's eyes, there were 6 parts, the right arm, left arm, right leg, left leg, body and head.

「Guru~」

Set, smelling the scent of blood, came closer while making noises from his throat. His gaze was directed at the offal that had been removed from the body of the Water Bear.

「.....Are you hungry?」

「Guru~」

Seeing the situation, he started to scratch Set's head out of habit.

(Well then, what to do now. Because there's no information about the Water Bear from Zepairu's knowledge, I don't know if the offal is safe to eat.....Well, at worst there's probably an antidote in the Misty Ring, there shouldn't be any problems.....probably?)

Glancing at the offal of the Water Bear, which was located in a large leaf, he came to that conclusion after thinking for a few seconds.

「Set, you can eat. However, don't eat the stomach, intestines, liver and testicles.」

「Guru~!」

Set let out a joyful sound and immediately thrust his beak into the offal in front of his eyes.

Rei told him not to eat the testicles and liver because he faintly recalled seeing something on TV that said they contained a poison similar to blowfish. The stomach and intestines were a matter of course.

Though Set had eaten most of the food for breakfast, it was still hungry to the extent that when Rei told him he could eat the offal, he started right away.

「Gururu~」

When he finally finished, Set gave a cry. By the looks of it, he was very satisfied,

「You seemed to have settled down, hey, come here for a moment.」

「Guru~」

Using a leaf from a nearby tree, Rei wiped the offal that was stuck to Set's beak.

「Guru~」

It was comfortable, Set seemed to be in a good mood as he gave a cry and closed his eyes.

After cleaning Set's beak, Rei finished by taking out the blue magic stone that was removed from the Water Bear.

「Guru~?」

「Now then, can you.....eat the magic stone?」

「Guru~」

Of course, Set nodded. In a sense, it might be a desert for Set, Rei thought as he presented the fist sized, blue magic stone.

「Guru~」

Set held the magic stone in his beak.....and swallowed it in one gulp.

「.....How is it?」

Rei asked set somewhat cautiously. Abruptly a voice echoed in his heaed.

【Set has acquired 『Water Ball Lv.1』】

It was like the announcement message when a new skill was acquired in an RPG, Rei had an idea to who would devote their time to making something with such a game specific taste.

「Takumu, you.....」

【Set】

『Water Ball Lv.1』

【Death Scythe】

Legend Chapter 7

Legend Chapter 7

Although he let out a sigh whenever he found game elements added by Takumu, Rei accepted them as normal as they were useful.

What's wrong with Rei? Set seemed to say as he rubbed Rei's face.

「No, it's nothing much. Is the Water Ball the same as the one the Water Bear used ?」
「Guru~」

Set nodded at his words

「Right. Do you want to use it now and take a look? I want to understand its strength.」
「Gurururururu~!」

As Set raised a cry, a water ball 20cm in diameter immediately appeared in front of his beak. The situation certainly looked the same as when the Water Bear used it.

「Right, please try to hit the tree trunk over there.」
「Guru~」

Following Rei's instructions, Set launched the water ball. Although the water ball flew quite fast, it was slower than the one the Water Bear used. As it hit the tree trunk.....only the surface of the tree broke.

「Guru~.....」

Compared to the one the Water Bear used, the speed at which the water ball flew was obviously slow, the power was also low. The amount created was also different, Set could only use one where as the Water Bear could use three at the same time. Because he was originally confident, Set dejectedly lowered his head.

「Set, don't feel depressed. In the first place, it's still only Lv.1. Perhaps the Water Bear's Water Ball was a higher level, if you absorb more magic stones, the power of the water ball will go up and other skills can be obtained.」
「Guru~」

Really? Set looked at Rei and tilted his head. His appearance was lovely, it wasn't something you would think of considering he was a combination of the king of the skies and the king of the beasts.

「Ah. Water Ball isn't just useful for attack. At the very least, Set and I won't go thirsty.」
「Guru~」

Leave it to me, Set gave a short cry as his mood was fixed. Maybe this simplicity was because it was only the 2nd day since his birth.

「In any case, the dismantling of the Water Bear has also finished. The magic stone has also been absorbed and the effect confirmed. Then we should get moving soon, the smell of the Water Bear's blood would have spread by the wind and monsters will be here soon.」
「Guru~」

With Set nodding, they left the place in a hurry.

With that, the only things that remained were the left over offal that Set didn't eat and the blood from the dismantling of the Water Bear.

They had moved for about an hour from the place where the Water Bear was dismantled. As Rei walked through the forest, he took a Clara Fruit from the Misty Ring and took a bite.

At that time, Set suddenly stopped and searched the surroundings.

「Set, enemy?」
「Guru~」

Set nodded at Rei's words and turned his sharp eyes to the back.

He briefly looked behind, but unfortunately, Rei's vision couldn't see the figure of an enemy.

(Well, even if you say this body was created by the best magicians, there's still a difference between the five senses of a magic beast. Now, what to do?)

The Death Scythe was in his right hand and the Mithril Knife at his waist. Though Rei was thought about it for a moment, he still chose the Death Scythe. Even if it was difficult to maneuver, there was still the ability to use magic.

「There is the possibility of attacking us when we camp if it keeps chasing us. Okay, we'll fight it here.」
「Gururu~」

Set nodded in agreement, created a water ball to attack at any time, and waited for the enemy.....the water ball was fired at the moment he saw something move!

「Gyan~!」

A cry was heard in the vicinity where the water ball hit, several enemies appeared as if waiting. Their appearance was.....

「Stray dog.....no, wolf?」

What appeared were wolves about the height of Rei's knee's. The wolves had grey fur and there were 6 of them.

「Although the number is large, it's still better if you compare them to the Water Bear.」

At a glance, they were the same size as a normal dog and did not have a coat of water like

the Water Bear. As for the difference between dogs and wolves, he felt that the combat strength of wolves was higher.

Grrr, the wolves glared at them to try to suppress them. At this chance, Rei hurriedly searched Zepairu's knowledge for information regarding the wolves.

But.....

「What?」

「Guru~?」

Set reacted to the voice Rei involuntarily leaked, Rei returned his line of sight to the wolves immediately while shaking his head.

While surveying the situation, Rei clicked his tongue. Though unlike the Water Bear, Zepairu had knowledge of the wolves in front of his eyes, they were not classified as monsters.

Demon, magic beast, monster. Although the names are numerous, they refer to the same thing. That is, they all have a crystal called a magic stone in their heart. Still, though it is common to have the magic stone in the heart, some species are an exception.

Those with a magic stone, will aggressively attack those from species other than their own. It is one of the reasons they are called『Demons』。

However, the wolves before Rei were different. They are a common beast which does not have a magic stone.

This meant that even if he defeated the wolves, he wouldn't get any magic stones to help Set and his Death Scythe grow.

Also, a common beast with that has some sort of mutation, stayed a long time in a magic power rich area or has swallowed a magic stone, may establish a new magic beast in the ecosystem if it can leave offspring. The Water Bear that Rei and Set fought was probably like this.

(At least the meat can be saved for Set, the fur seems like it can be sold.....in that case)

Honestly, the rewards were very small compared to the battle required, he seriously wished they would leave them alone.

(That said, they can't understand our words. I guess there's no choice)

As he held the Death Scythe up.....it became impossible to endure the tension, one of the wolves dashed out to attack Rei. Tempted by it, the rest of the wolves also started to move, cries immediately rang out into the surrounding forest.

「Gya~!」

The moment the wolf kicked the ground and jumped up to attack Rei with its fangs, Set

kicked it with his right forefoot.

Set was created with Rei's vast magic power, in addition, he was now equipped with the magic item Bracelet of Herculean Strength. Because it was hit by Set in that state, the wolf, which wasn't even a monster, naturally couldn't get away with it. It raised a terrified cry as it was blown away. Losing its head, the body collapsed to the ground dead.

「Haah!」

As for Rei, he thrust out the handle of the Death Scythe at a wolf which had jumped at the same time.

Rei knew how high his physical ability was from the fight against the Water Bear, he was able to fight the wolf while giving himself a slight margin for error.

「Gyan~!」

The handle of the Death Scythe that was thrust out pierced through the chest of the wolf. Rei turned to face another wolf that attacked him, waving the handle with wolf stuck on it. Naturally, the body of the wolf that had been pierced flew off and hit the wolf that jumped at him felling both.

「Gururururu~!」

Set fired a water ball to secure the final blow. Though it's power is low compared with the Water Bear, it still had enough power to reap the lives of the wolves.

「Three left. Set, we'll finish them in one go!」

「Gururu~!」

Set gave a sharp cry at Rei's words, one person and one animal moved forward at the same time.

「Garurururu」

As expected, after half of them died, the rest became cautious, the last 3 surrounded Rei. However, they still showed no sign of retreat.

「Gururu~!」

Set created another water ball. He fired it to restrain the wolves, the wolves were divided into groups of two and one. Rei thrust out. Shifting the Death Scythe to his left hand, he pulled the Mithril Knife with his right hand from his waist.

「Gaaa~!」

The wolf Rei aimed for sprung up to meet him. It aimed for the neck. From its long hunting experience, it knew that the person would die if it bit there.

「Let's do this!」

It's mouth opened, the knife in Rei's right hand was stabbed in and the fangs of the wolf cut.

Wolf or dog, it could not close its mouth until it could get rid of the object stuck deep inside its throat. Rei had done that because he knew. As for the Mithril Knife, with Rei's magic power, it had a sharpness close to those of rare swords.

「Gafu~」

As a result, the Mithril Knife was pushed far down the wolf's throat and was successful in cutting off the top half of the wolf's face.

「Gurururururururu~!」

Set, watching the situation, gave an intimidating cry.

The number of wolves had decreased to two. The numerical advantage against Rei and Set had completely disappeared. Whether or not the wolves understood it, the remaining two animals suddenly turned around and single mindedly ran into the depths of the forest.

Rei watched them go without giving chase. It was natural. The wolves are beasts anyway and not a monster. Because of that, there wouldn't be a magic stone even if he killed it.

「Somehow we drove them away.」

「Guru~」

As Rei petted Set, he gave a low growl of gratitude, the bodies of the 5 wolves were stored in the Misty Ring. There were no magic stones but the meat and fur could be used. TLN: It seems that there were originally 7 wolves and Set killed one with a water ball before the others appeared, just a note for those who are confused as to why there are 5 bodies.

「But, this.....is a little troublesome.」

「Guru~?」

What's wrong? Set tilted his head. Rei answered while stroking Set's body.

「It's only been a few hours since we left the barrier and we've already been attacked by the Water Bear and a pack of wolves?」

「Guru~」

「In other words, in the forest there are a lot more monsters and beasts than we expected. More than that, camping is accompanied by significant risk.」

Rei thought of different ideas while stroking Set's back. After a few minutes, he finally settled on an idea and looked into Set's face.

「I wonder, Set. Is it possible for you to run if I ride on your back? When thinking about the possibility of getting attacked while taking a rest, I want to quickly get out of the forest.

Fortunately, we don't need to be worried about being attacked by dragons near the edge of the forest, if we can make that distance then we can fly.」

「Guru~!」

All right! Set moved his face to the ground and encouraged Rei to get on.

「Thanks. Because I can serve the meat of the Water Bear once we get out, do your best. Come on, eat this to moisten the throat.」

He removed a Clara Fruit from the Misty Ring and gave it to Set.

「Gururu~」

Raising a happy cry, Set ate the fresh fruit.

「Good, well, let's get out of the forest at once.....I'm counting on you.」

He quickly hopped onto Set's back, because the Death Scythe would become obstructive on Set's back, it was stored inside the Misty Ring, .

「Well, let's start!」

「Gururururu~!」

Raising a heroic cry, Set kicked the ground. The speed can be imagined if you think of the scenery flashing by in moments.

A wry smile floated on to Rei's face.

「I see, you held back to match my speed until now.」

「Guru~?」

What? Set seemed to ask as gave a cry. Rei scratched Set's head and told him it wasn't anything.

Legend Chapter 8

Legend Chapter 8

As the night moonlight poured down, Set ran through the forest at full speed. It was a Griffon which held the characteristics of the eagle, the king of the sky, and the lion, the king of the beasts. In spite of the pale moonlight, Set's blue eyes relied on it to cut through the forest at a fast speed without any danger.

Rei admired the view as he rode on Set's back. He held out one of the few remaining Clara Fruits to Set as he stroked his neck.

「Guru~」

Set gave a joyful cry as he ran through the forest, chewing on the Clara Fruit in his beak with a crunching sound.

「According to Zeppairu's knowledge, we should have been out of the forest a long time ago.....」

Rei confirmed the surroundings as he muttered, the forest seemed to continue endlessly.

(Did the forest spread this far in a few hundred years? Well, with magic in this world, maybe it's possible.)

While muttering in his head, he could not stop the unpleasant feeling in his heart.

As if to ignore unpleasant feeling, he talked to Set while stroking his neck.

「Still, Set is amazing. You don't seem to be tired at all even though you've continued running since morning.」

「Guru~」

Because he was happy that Rei praised him, Set increased his speed further.

A wry smile floated on to Rei's face, he admired the physical ability of the Griffon as well as his simple mindedness.

Anyway, since Set started running, they had not been attacked once by beasts or monsters. At first, they encountered a monkey with three eyes, a wild boar with 50cm long fangs and rabbits with 1m long, blade like, ears. But they were all shaken off as none of them could catch up with Set as he ran through the forest at high speed.

For Rei, the purpose of fighting the Water Bear and the wolves was to gain combat experience. He hadn't properly understood the physical properties of his body and he wanted to secure the magic stone to help the growth of Set and the Death Scythe.

But even though he was tempted to fight other monsters with Set after fighting with the Water Bear and the wolves, the highest priority goal was for Set to run and focus on exiting

the forest.

「Gururu~!」

Then, Set abruptly gave a cry. Rei felt caution in the voice.

「Set, enemy?」

「Guru~」

Set gave a short cry at Rei's words.

However, it wasn't possible to find the enemies in the moonlight with Rei's eyes.

Still, to counter attack at any time, he pulled out the mithril knife from the sheath at his waist and readied it.

「Gururu~!」

As Set continued to run, he sharply turned his face to the left. At the same time, something came out from the darkness.

「Tch!」

He clicked his tongue as he reflexively used the Dragon Robe to catch the incoming object while protecting himself.

It was unfortunate for Rei that the attack was from the left. If it had attacked from the right, Rei, who was right handed, could have intercepted it with the mithril knife. Or maybe it was lucky for the unexpectedly small object that had hit Rei. Thanks to Set, he didn't roll off his back.

「Gyi~!」

The object that had been wrapped up in the Dragon Robe raised a cry. Putting the mithril knife in his his right hand into his mouth, he untangled the creature that was caught in the left side of the Dragon Robe and brought it before his eyes.

「This is, a flying squirrel?」

At first glance, it had the size and appearance of a squirrel, but something like a membrane could be seen between its hands and feet. Up to here, it was the same as the flying squirrel Rei knew. The difference was the tail. After all, a squirrel's tail should have large bushy fur, this tail was like a blade.

However, the blade like tail fortunately couldn't reach Rei as he held the body from the front.

「Gyiii~!」

It menacingly bared its fangs as Rei held its body. From Rei's judgement, the fangs growing from its mouth were about 3cm long, long enough for the Flying Blade Squirrel (provisional name) which was about 15cm long.

Since there wasn't enough time to leisurely search Zeppairu's knowledge in this situation, while holding the body in his left hand, he used his right hand to break its neck. After confirming that it was dead, he stored it inside the Misty Ring.

「Guru~!」

Set gave another sharp cry. Rei took the mithril knife that was in his mouth back into his hand and thrust it at the Flying Blade Squirrel that attacked from above.

With a guyuu~ sound, the mithril knife pierced the forehead of the Flying Blade Squirrel, Rei frowned, pulled the knife out and stored the corpse into the Misty Ring.

A few minutes later. Flying Blade Squirrels were coming out from everywhere, the tops of trees and bushes like knives. Catching them in his left forefoot, Set killed them and ate them with his sharp beak, tearing them from his claws. But, the Flying Blade Squirrels continued attack without caring if their companions died, the number of corpses increased as time went on.

「Damn, there's no end!」

Already accustomed to wielding it, the mithril knife flashed through the air. A Flying Blade Squirrel was bisected divided into the top and bottom half and fell to the ground, passing them in an instant.

In this situation, should he prepare a large scale fire magic and burn the whole area around them? Rei thought at the time.

TLN: JUST DO IT!

「Gurururururu~!」

Listening to Set's voice which was trying to draw attention, he redirected his line of sight. Then, in the view ahead, the thick trees which had grown endlessly finally broke.

「The exit, is it.」

While exhaling in relief, he quickly thrust the mithril knife at the body of a Flying Blade Squirrel that had attacked from a tree. After it ceased to breath, he stored it in the Misty Ring.

「Set, if we've come here, it's safe to fly. We'll leave the Flying Blade Squirrels behind in one go. Go!」

「Gururururu~!」

Ok, Set's high pitched cry seemed to say, the wings that had been folded in so far expanded. Even with a single wing, the wing size was near 2m.

For the run-up, enough speed had already been built up by running here. While at that speed, he flapped his wings greatly.....after a few seconds, Set kicked the ground and a floating sensation was felt, the figure of Set went above the trees in the thick forest.

The moonlight shined on the ground as there wasn't a single cloud in the sky. In such a night sky, Set flapped his wings and flew through the sky. Though it may be because it was night, there was nothing in the sky except for Rei and Set. From the private plane like view, Rei strongly recognized that this was a different world.

However, this state didn't continue for long.

「Gururururu~!」

Set gave a sharp cry as if to guard against something. When Rei heard the voice, his consciousness immediately returned and he observed the surroundings keenly.

「.....What?」

As Rei looked around, something entered his vision. Innumerable shadows emerged from the forest the same way that Set had come, shadows and shadows. Although he couldn't grasp the exact number because of the moonlight, the number was still around 100.

Looking at the size of the shadows, he reflexively understood what group was following them. They were no doubt the Flying Blade Squirrels that chased them relentlessly before.

(According to common sense, flying squirrels can only glide from high places, to be able to fly by themselves.....indeed this is a fantasy world. However, we have already gone out of the forest. In other words, we don't need to be worried about a fire like before. Until now, they've been chasing us relentlessly, now it's time to deal with them.)

The Death Scythe was removed from the Misty Ring. It was set up so as to not knock against Set's wings.

It was only the second day since Rei was reborn in this body. In addition to sitting on Set's back while flying, it was the first time he had used the Death Scythe on Set's back. If he used the it unskillfully, he could injure Set's wings. The probability of surviving a fall from this height was very low.

It was different from the forest before. While holding the handle and pointing the 1m blade at the flock of Flying Blade Squirrels in pursuit of Set, he said an incantation.

Even though he said it wasn't in the forest, they are still in the sky above it. In other words, if wide area spell was used here, it was necessary to restrict the range to sky above the forest.

『Dancing flames, dance. Light up the surroundings with your magnificent dance, burn as you

dance and captivate the people.』

The range of the spell was specified while saying the incantation. The last phrase was said.

『Dance Fire Snake!』

The world was rewritten with Rei's magic power and its appearance was shown.

Hundreds of flames, ten times the size of humans, appeared and freely moved through the sky. As the flames moved through the air, the surroundings lit up brightly, it was surely a scene where you could say the flames were dancing. Though the Flying Blade Squirrels who were caught in the dancing flames continued to resist desperately, even if it boasted of a blade like tail and fangs, they couldn't show any effects against the flames. The bodies which had been completely burnt like cinder dropped to the earth. Though there were Flying Blade Squirrels that decided not to follow their companions and flew to the forest, most of them were caught by the dancing flame moving through the sky and were burnt to cinders in an instant. Still, several Flying Blade Squirrels succeeded in running away from the range of the magic Rei had specified. They ran to the forest without looking back.

A few minutes passed after using the magic. There were already no more Flying Blade Squirrels illuminated by the moonlight, with a click from Rei's fingers, the flames that had been created by magic disappeared as if they had never existed. The only things that remained were the fluttering of Set's wings as Rei rode on his back.

「Guru~」

Rei, who had been imagining fireworks as he looked at the magic was brought back by Set's voice.

「My bad, I was thinking of something.....yeah. For the time being, please move away from the forest. Then let's take a rest.」

「Gururu~!」

Set's cry echoed high in the night sky where Flying Blade Squirrels and flames had been a few minutes ago, as he flapped his wings, they left the forest.

Along the way, Rei anxiously searched Zepairu's knowledge for information on the Flying Blade Squirrels. Same as the Water Bear, the information didn't exist.

(Why did it turn out like this? After the Water Bear, there's no information on this either, even if you say it has been several hundred years, there is a sense of incongruity. This, could it be.....)

A bad feeling went through Rei's chest, he determined that there wasn't any other way to check his suspicions, the Death Scythe was moved to accommodate it and a Flying Blade Squirrel removed from the Misty Ring.

He cut open the body of the Flying Blade Squirrel with the mithril knife that was at his waist.

There was a magic stone several centimeters large in the heart.

「Monster, is it. But.....」

Rei recalled the previous battle. At that time, Set had bitten and consumed a considerable number of Flying Blade Squirrels. Naturally, the magic stones should have been absorbed by Set as well, however, he didn't have the memory of a skill announcement message appearing. Even when he checked Set's skills to be sure, it hadn't changed and only Water Ball Lv.1 was displayed there.

Wondering about this, Rei searched Zepairu's knowledge again.

According to it, it seems that learning a skill didn't necessarily occur if a magic stone was consumed. In other words, acquiring Water Ball after only consuming the magic stone of the Water Bear was an exception.

Also, there was the newly discovered fact that it was almost impossible to get an ability from a magic stone if the monster was too weak.

Legend Chapter 9

Legend Chapter 9

About 20 minutes after getting out of the forest, they arrived at a wide grassland. Getting off at a particularly big rock, Rei let out a big breath.

「I feel relieved for now, something like that.」
「Guru~」

He sat down on the grass while leaning against the rock. Set came and rubbed his head while giving a deep cry.

A smile floated on to his face as Rei scratched his head.

「Set, I was somehow able to get out of the forest thanks to you.」
「Gururu~」

Don't mind it, the cry seemed to say.

「We will stay here tonight for now. We'll look for people, a village or a town tomorrow. However, according to Zepairu's knowledge, there doesn't seem to be any towns or villages in this areawell, what to do.」

Doubt spread in his heart. There was no information in Zepairu's knowledge on either the Water Bear or the Flying Blade Squirrel.

Certainly, if there was a gap of several hundred years, the information might be imperfect. However, he wondered why there was no information on the two monsters they successively met in the area. There was information on the wolves as they were a common beast, so the knowledge wasn't completely untrustworthy. Also, the size of the forest was different. According to Zepairu's knowledge, the forest should have been smaller. It took him riding on Set a bit less than 10 hours to get out.....it wasn't the same scale

「Guru~?」
「Oh well. There's no use worrying. For the time being, let's just eat something and prepare for tomorrow. Set, bring me the tree over there.」

Glancing at a medium sized tree which had fallen over, he asked Set to bring it over, he then took the arm parts of the Water Bear out of the Misty Ring.

He took out the bear paws because from his own knowledge he had a faint memory that the meat there was delicious.

The right arm of the Water Bear that was taken out was chopped into pieces by the mithril knife, he then pierced the meat with branches from nearby dead trees.

「Gururururu~」

When about 10 meat skewers were made, Set came back, rolling a fallen tree with his forefeet.

Looking at the situation, he was impressed by Set's strength. He took out the Death Scythe from the Misty Ring while.

「This is the first time I've cut firewood with a scythe.....I wonder what Zepairu would say if he knew.」

While smiling wryly, he poured magic power into the blade. One strike, two strikes, three strikes, the fallen tree was cut into small firewood pieces .

After a sufficient amount had been gathered, he casted a spell to prepare a fire.

『Fire, gather on my fingertips. Small Flame』

A flame appeared and spread to the firewood. The bear meat skewers that where made before were stabbed into the ground a moderate distance from the fire. With that the camp preparations were complete.

Because there were no camping gear such as sleeping bags or tents in the Misty Ring, the fire became their friend for the night.

「Gururu~」

The flames immediately began to cook the meat. As Set smelled the appetizing fragrance, he drifted closer to Rei.

I can't wait, Set seemed to say. With a wry smile, Rei gave him some of the raw meat that hadn't been skewered.

「Eat this for now until the meat is cooked.」

「Guru~」

Taking the raw meat with his beak, he swallowed it after chewing a few times. He then pleaded at Rei with his blue eyes for another piece of meat.

(If you eat like a human, you better chew well. I wonder about Griffons.)

He fed Set like this for about 5 minutes. At last, the meat was cooked by the fire, he pulled the skewer out of the ground and bit into juicy meat.

It was the first time Rei had tasted an overwhelmingly mellow meat. Before, Rei had eaten some bear meat from a bear which had been killed by a hunter who lived close by. His impression at the time was『Well, it's not unpalatable.....I think?』 or something like that. The bear meat that Rei knew and the meat of the Water Bear was so different in taste that he could have mistaken it for something else. When he dismantled the body and took out the magic stone, the blood had been drained. The faint smell of blood that remained, added with

the peculiar taste of wild meat, gave a rich flavour.

His only regret was that it was purely a meat taste as there was absolutely no seasoning. The flavour was likely to change even with a little bit of salt.

In fact, Rei didn't know, but the meat of higher level monsters tended to be more delicious because of their magic power. But in the end, a tendency is still a tendency, there were monsters with unpalatable meat even if their magic power was high, there also existed delicious meat from low level monsters. In a sense, he was also lucky to that the first meat he ate was the meat of a Water Bear.

「Gururu~」

Giving one to himself, he held out a skewer to Set, who pushed his face closer and took the meat off dexterously with his beak. Rei considered situation for a moment as he looked at the meat in Set's mouth. Satisfied with his meal, he then took out a Clara Fruit, as a replacement for dessert, and bit into it.

Quickly eating the sweet and sour fruit flesh and juice, Rei stood up and held the Death Scythe horizontally as Set had his eyes glued to the raw meat that was left.

「Guru~?」

Set noticed Rei's gaze, but went back to focusing on the meat after determining there was no danger in the surroundings.

Smiling wryly at Set's actions, he moved a bit further away. Leaning the Death Scythe against a rock nearby, he began to stretch to ascertain the condition of his body.

Although the body of Reiji in his memory had a decent flexibility, Rei's body was even more flexible than expected.

Firstly, he could touch the ground with his palms without bending his knees, in addition, he still had room to spare.

Then, for a few minutes, he did some suitable stretches that he had learnt in junior high school and high school.

「Now, with this I'm warmed up.」

Saying so, he took the Death Scythe which had been leaning against a rock and took a stance using both hands.

「Hah!」

One yell, one strike. The blade of the Death Scythe split the sky. However, he felt something was off and set the Death Scythe up again while tilting his neck.

「Hah!」

Again, one yell, one strike. This time, the twist of the body was different from before. When he swung the Death Scythe down, he consciously turned his waist, this was done to accurately transmit the motion to the Death Scythe.

「Well, something like this.」

Understanding how to handle the Death Scythe, he then did two different swings. Side sweeping from left to right and sweeping inversely from right to left. He then endlessly tried any swings he could come up with, such as scooping from below, tirelessly.

He persisted in this state for about 30 minutes. At first, he handled the Death Scythe awkwardly with brute force. But as time went on, the handling became increasingly smooth. It can be imagined that if soldiers and swordsmen could see the speed, they would be jealous.

The Death Scythe was swung down and stopped just before hitting the ground, he then flipped the blade back up and to the right.

If that series of attacks was used against a human, they would first be cut diagonally by the scythe, their right arm would then be cut off by the next strike and their neck separated from their body with one sweep.

The scythe was then moved continuously, sometimes he would do tricky movements and use the handle as a spear like against the Water Bear. After a while, he became used to the handling of the Death Scythe.

At first, Rei stopped after one swing before swinging again, now there was no awkward movement, it wouldn't be an exaggeration to say that it was now like a sword dance. A single sweep of the blade was sharp and cut through the air, the handle had enough power to penetrate through low quality armour with a single blow.

Rei focused and continued the movements which were like a sword dance of death. As his movements sharpened.....

「Haaaaatsu~!」

With one yell and one strike, the Death Scythe stopped and was placed beside him.

「Phew, I've roughly accustomed myself to it.」

It was already a few hours since he started training with the Death Scythe. Even though he used the ability of the Death Scythe and could hardly feel its weight, Rei had continued to swing around the large scythe without once taking a break.

「As expected of the body that the world's best magicians crafted. You can continue to keep moving without losing your breath.」

Although there was a bit of sweat on his forehead, it was something you could barely see.

Returning to the camp fire with the Death Scythe, Set was about to toss a piece of firewood in with his beak. All the meat had already been eaten off the Water Bear's right arm, the only remains were the bones which rolled on the ground.

「Gururu~」

Welcome back, Set gave a short cry as he saw Rei.

Unlike normal Griffons, Set had an intellect similar to or higher than humans because of Rei's extraordinary magic power. This might be evidence that he could understand Rei's words. While Rei was confirming his physical specifications, Set, who wanted to be spoiled, endured patiently as he knew his master was training to use the unwieldy weapon that was the Scythe.

So.

「Set, can you make some water?」

「Gururu~!」

When asked by his much loved Rei, he used Water Ball happily.

The water ball that Set created floated buoyantly and stopped in front of Rei. Rei put his hand in and scooped water out to wash his face.

「.....Ah, damn it. There isn't a towel.」

He immediately noticed his mistake and decided to leave the water on his hands to dry naturally.

「Guru~」

Set gave a spoiled cry as Rei sat down on the ground and leaned his body against him.

While rubbing Set's head, he began to think of tomorrow's schedule.

(For now, we will still look for a town or village as originally intended.....but which way to go? Fortunately or not, we haven't discovered anything that could be called a highway after leaving some distance from the forest. In the end, we may have to treat the forest like some sort of new frontier.)

Even if you said that he inherited the knowledge of Zepariu, things like a map of Japan or a world map were not included. He could roughly state where the next country was, it was over the mountain range.....however, it was only information.

And even such information was several hundred years old and could not be used as a reference in the current situation.

(If my bad feeling is correct, most of Zepairu's knowledge is likely to be useless.)

There was no information on the monsters we met or on the difference in the size of the forest. When thinking about it, it is likely that hundreds more years have passed than what Zepairu said.

「Well, this can be ascertained if we go to a town or village.」
「Guru~?」

What's wrong, Set seemed to say. Rei shook his head and said it wasn't much while scratching his head.

「Anyway, that's tomorrow. Let's look for a place with people when tomorrow morning comes.」

「Guru~」

「Can I count on you for the lookout?」

「Guru~!」

Leave it to me, Set gave a cry. After hearing that, Rei was wrapped in silky feathers and fell asleep in the comfortable warmth.

Legend Chapter 10

Legend Chapter 10

When the morning sun had risen, Set shook Rei's body, which was leaning against him, and gave a cry to wake him.

「Nn? Set.....is it?」

「Guru~」

When he looked around while rubbing his eyes, he understood that it was early morning as the sun could already be seen.

「Morning.I was able to sleep better than I thought.」

While saying so, he got up to ascertain the condition of his body. He had moved around a lot just before sleeping but he didn't have any muscle pains.

「Gururu~」

He turned around at Set's voice, a water ball was floating there. It was for him to wash his face.

「Thanks.」

Rei briefly said thanks. After washing his face, he left it to dry naturally as the night before.

He then cooked some Water Bear meat for breakfast at the campfire, which was still burning as Set had looked after it while he was asleep. Sharing the last two Clara Fruits, the preparations for departure were complete.

「Well, I think we should leave soon.....you were on lookout last night, are you physically okay?」

「Guru~」

No problems at all, Set cried in response to Rei's question.

Although a normal Griffon would show some fatigue if it stayed up all night, Set was a Griffon made with Rei's vast magic power using the Magic Beast Art. He could stay up for a week without problems, let alone one night. Of course, he would have to spend the next few days resting if he did that.

「I see. Then let's go immediately.」

「Guru~」

Like the time in the forest, Set lowered his back and urged Rei to get on. While holding the Death Scythe, Rei gently stroked Set's back to show his appreciation.

「Gururururururu~!」

With a high pitched cry, he flapped his wings, took a run up of several steps and went up into the sky. After reaching a sufficient altitude, Set turned his neck around to look at Rei, who was sitting on his back.

「Guru~?」

Which way to go? Rei pointed south when Set asked. Although he didn't know if it was reliable, Zepairu's knowledge indicated that if they kept going south for a few days, there would be a large town.....so it said.

Rei had already judged Zepairu's knowledge as unreliable and only thought of it as a reference. But still, there was a difference between having a reference and not having one.

「To the south.」

「Gururu~!」

Set gave a sharp cry in response to Rei's words and flapped its wings to take a path straight south.

「.....Amazing」

Looking at the view from Set's back, he unintentionally said those words.

Extending before Rei's eyes was a blue sky and an endless green carpet. Human constructs such as towns and villages could not be seen as far as the eyes could see.

Even if he said he was born in and grew up in a country town in Tohoku, there naturally were houses in the vicinity. The town could still be commuted to by bicycle. To Rei, the world of nature that extended before his eyes was the first he had seen in his life.

「Gurururu~」

Maybe understanding that Rei was happy to see such scenery from the sky, Set gave a delighted cry and flapped his wings greatly, soaring through the sky.

「.....Hmm, I should think of an identity instead of being kept fascinated.」

To begin with, the only knowledge he had of the world was from Zepairu. And as he was unwilling to rely on Zepairu's knowledge, he wasn't sure how to create an identity for himself. Rei judged so while half watching the scenery and half working on thinking up a background.

(Firstly, since I have to live as an adventurer, I must be a magician. Because of Set, I must also have a background either as a summoner or a tamer. That background feels a bit simple.....)

In the novels, movies and manga that he had seen so far, he recalled something with similar content.

(Amnesia.....ha, that's impossible because of Set. Was I sent to a place I don't know due to recklessly using teleportation magic? Perhaps that would work.....no, wait.)

A thought crossed Rei's mind at that moment. It was a manga he had read as Saeki Reiji where a wizard's apprentice was sent travelling to train himself

The story could fit his current circumstances.

(Because I lived in a secluded place with my master, I'm ignorant about the world.....OK. I learnt my magic from my master, not summoning magic but fire magic.....ha, it would be troubling if I was asked to summon anything other than Set, maybe I'll be a tamer. According to Zepairu's knowledge, tamers seem to exist. So, the general story is that I was teleported by my master to a strange place by space magic for teaching and training purposes, while I was wandering and hunting with my magic beast partner Set, I found a town or village.)

While thinking if there were any contradictions in his thoughts, he muttered softly.

「I shouldn't have any problems.」

Thinking about it, the large weapon, the Death Scythe could be said to be something which directly trained the magician, the large scythe had a magic body.....so it partially true. Because of training purposes he was sent out with no money. Other than Rei, Set was also equipped with a set of expensive magic items so there were a number of strange points. However, Rei nodded without minding it as he was satisfied that the background was persuasive enough.

After several hours, he determined his background. Without anything in particular to do, Rei sat on Set's back and enjoyed the air travel.

For a while, Rei enjoyed the scenery from the sky, but as expected, he became tired of watching the same endless scenery for hours. Things like monsters attacking merchants or thieves robbing a noble's carriage. Alternatively, an adventurer being attacked by monsters was a development that existed as well, reality wasn't so sweet, nothing happened and he was left swaying on Set's back.

After a few hours. The sun had almost risen to noon, Rei began thinking of searching for monsters to eat.

「Gurururururu~!」

Set raised a cry to draw attention.

「What's wrong」

「Guru~」

To Rei's question, Set looked ahead. Following his line of sight, human constructions could clearly be seen.....rather than saying that, there were a lot of houses. It was neither a village or town, it seemed to be a considerably large city where tens of thousands of people could

live. Probably for anti-monster measures, the city was a walled city with high walls.

As he caught sight of the city, Rei let out a sigh.

「What to say, maybe it was as expected.....the city wasn't in Zepairu's knowledge, if several hundred years have passed, a city of that scale could be built. In that case, let's enter the city and gather some information.」

As expected, the city was near. Under his eyes, he could see roads leading to the city. That said, the roads that were trod on by people and wagons were not covered with concrete but with a natural stone pavement. People could be seen trickling along the roads.

(Well, what to do. Firstly, I'll probably be rejected, no questions asked, if I entered with Set from the sky. Best way is to quietly enter through the entrance.....if I get off Set in the near vicinity the gate keeper will probably be cautious. This is rejected as well. Then I'll land a bit further away and from there walk to the city with Set.)

While determining his method, the people on the road below raised voices of surprise as they pointed at Set.

「Set, land on the ground once we get a bit further. We will head to the city by walking, not flying.」

「Guru~」

Giving a small cry at Rei's request, Set flapped his wings greatly and headed towards the city. After a few minutes, Set and Rei decided to stop their air travel about 10 minutes from the city and and walk the remaining distance.

After Set and Rei landed on the ground, they walked to the road leading to the city. Probably because they saw Set land nearby, travelers, merchant and adventurers moved a considerable distance away from the figures of the lone person and animal as they headed to the city,

(I see, there are adventurers. Basically, it's the old story where several people form a group to conduct activities. Weapons are spears, swords and bows. Eh, is that a magician with the cane?)

As Rei walked alone the beaten road, he observed the appearances of the adventurers nearby. Although he didn't realize it, the adventurers noticed that there were being observed and, maybe because they were wary of the Griffon, Set, they also watched Rei.

Such a state continued for about 10 minutes, finally, the entrance to the city came into view. It could be said that naturally or unexpectedly, there were 5 soldiers armed with spears and swords guarding.

「.....」

As he did not come to mess with them, Rei approached the soldiers in silence. Set followed

him and walked quietly. The soldiers watched the lone person and animal approach, abruptly, one of the soldiers walked towards Rei. The feeling of tension spread to the surroundings as the soldier approached Rei.

(Compared to the soldiers in their twenties, this person is in his thirties to forties. Perhaps he is the leader of the soldiers. Weapons.....though they're equipped with swords, there probably isn't much risk as they are still sheathed at their waists.)

The middle aged man with a beard met Rei's expectations and called out to him.

「I am Ranga, a guard captain of the city of Girumu. May I ask if you have business in the city?」

Despite the rugged appearance, an unexpectedly mild voice came from his mouth. While puzzled about the sense of incongruity, Rei nodded.

「Ah. That's right.」

「I see. Can I listen to your story in the guard room? Everyone is nervous since you brought a rank A monster, Griffon, with you.」

Taking a brief glance, most of the people in the surroundings were looking at Rei and Set.More than that, most of them, adventurers included, looked away when Rei looked at them.

(Certainly, it seems that they were scared of Set as expected. In that case, there's no meaning even if I force my way through. The faster way is to explain myself in the guardroom.)

Letting out a sigh in his mind, he nodded to the man's words.

「I understand. It would be better in a quiet place as you said.」

「I'm sorry about that. The boss would be mad if I let someone who brought a high ranked monster Griffon through. Also, it's necessary to give documents to the Margrave.」

Ranga explained the situation in a light tone, not suited to his rugged face. Apparently, the mild voice he had used at their first meeting a little while ago was just the way he was and not deliberately used because he was wary of Rei and Set.

Following Ranga's guidance, they went to a small build beside the gate.

「Um, I'm sorry but because of its size can I ask the Griffon to wait outside?」

「Ah, it doesn't matter. Set.」

As Rei talked with Ranga, he called to Set. Set, who had been standing quietly behind Rei, joyfully rubbed his face as his head was scratched.

「Because I have to talk a while in that building, Set, take a rest near the building.」

「Guru~?」

All right? Set seemed to say with his blue eyes as he nodded.

「I'll be fine. You've seen my ability you know?」

「Guru~」

Maybe relieved at Rei's words, Set lay down on the grass next to the guardroom. After staying up all night and flying here non stop, there was some fatigue, he slowly closed his eyes.

Naturally, he was still alert. Set's specifications were overwhelming compared with the average Griffon. He had an exceptional sense of smell and vision. It wasn't difficult to rest his body while remaining vigilant because of his magic power.

「I'll say it once for now, I don't want anyone to meddle with him when you're listening to my story in the guardroom.」

「Ah, I understand of course. I don't think anyone would be stupid enough to anger a rank A monster. However, you're right.....You.」

Ranga called a soldier that was nearby.

「What is it?」

「While I'm talking with him in the guardroom, keep watch so that no one tries to meddle with the Griffon.」

「.....Eh? Me?」

「Yes. You.」

「.....I understand.」

Reluctantly, the soldier nodded.

(Well, I can understand since it is a rank A monster.)

Though he didn't know what rank Set was, he predicted that rank A was fairly dangerous as he saw the state of the soldier guards.

A wry smile floated to his face as he saw the soldier's appearance. Rei opened his mouth to speak.

「Unless Set is badly annoyed, he won't do anything, there's no danger.」

「Haa.....I'll believe your words.」

「Then, let's go to the guardroom immediately.....before you go, here.」

Ranga handed Rei a cloth that seemed to come from nowhere. Not knowing what it was for, Rei received it while raising his eyebrows. Although he thought about it, he simply decided to ask Ranga what it was for.

「What do I do with this white cloth?」

「.....You. Where you planning to enter the city with the scythe as it is? Wouldn't it be the same as a person carrying an unsheathed sword? Aside from spears, such a big blade

just.....I can't overlook this situation.」

「.....I understand.」

The explanation was reasonable.

Legend Chapter 11

Legend Chapter 11

Entering the guardroom, Ranga prompted Rei to sit in a chair. Because Set wasn't here, he leaned the Death Scythe against a chair so that it could be used at any time.

As a wry smile floated on to his face, Ranga poured a cup of water from a jug and took a sip to show that there was nothing strange in it before giving it to Rei.

「Sorry about this.」

As he hadn't eaten or drank anything while riding on Set, Rei gulped the water down in one mouthful.

Cold.....though the temperature wasn't great, it still felt good because he was thirsty.

「How about another cup?」

「Yes thanks.」

Pouring another cup of water, Ranga finally sat down opposite Rei.

「Well, what should I hear first. No, let's go with the self introductions first. Although I said this earlier, my name is Ranga and I'm serving as a guard captain in this city of Girumu.」

「My name is Rei. The Griffon out the front is Set.」

With the short self introduction over, Ranga finally spoke about the main subject.

「Is that so, first of all, we'll start with this question. What is your purpose in the city of Gimuru.」

「I want to know something before answering the question. This city of Gimuru you mentioned. Is there an Adventurers Guild here?」

According to Zepairu's knowledge, there would be a branch office of the Adventurers Guild if it was a big city. However, Zepairu's knowledge had been relegated by Rei to be used as a reference only. And.....

「Naturally of course. It is common to have branch offices of the Adventurers Guild in small villages, is there any reason why there wouldn't be one in this city of Gimuru?」

Naturally there are, Ranga said as he nodded.

(I thought so. With this it's definite. Zepairu's knowledge is.....quite old. I should check how much error there is later.

He started to speak while letting out a sigh in his mind.

「That's good. After all, I've only been living with my master since I was born. I'm ignorant of the state of society. As for my purpose, that's easy. I came to become an adventurer.」

「.....Judging from your question a little while ago, you didn't even know if there was an

Adventurers Guild branch in the city?」

Although his tone is soft, not missing the feeling of a lie, Ranga asked another question.

On the other hand, Rei lightly shrugged his shoulders.

「I said it just before, I've been living with my master since I was born. Because my master was crazy about magic, I'm quite ignorant about common sense.」

「.....Magic (majutsu)? Wait, magic (maho)?」

TLN: Okay, this gets a bit confusing, the two words used here are Majutsu and Maho, technically they both mean magic. However the first one has the character for Art in it while the second one has the character for Method. Because of this, I'll put which one it is referring to in brackets.

Ranga asked curiously. In this respect again, the unreliability of Zepairu's knowledge became apparent again.

「Magic (maho)? My master called it magic (majutsu).....is it called magic (maho) here?」

「.....I see. You certainly don't know much about the world. It was called magic (majutsu) several hundred years ago. Nowadays, that name isn't used much and is instead called magic (maho).」

Several hundred years. Rei, who frowned his eyebrows, immediately continued his story.

「It that is true, then my master is certainly ignorant to a great extent.....well, I was told to go out to train and was sent away with space magic (majutsu)no, how to put it, I was teleported to a strange place I don't know and it wasn't very funny.」

「Training?」

「Ah. After I mastered basic magic (maho), my master told me to train myself to improve my power.」

「I see, so you want to be an adventurer for that reason. By the way, is the Griffon outside from your magic (maho)?」

Rei shook neck after taking a sip of water.

「Set doesn't follow me by magic. Have you heard of a skill called tamer?」

「It's a skill to tame a monster. Then, in that case?」

「That's right.」

「Un, so it's not summoning magic.In that case.....」

Ranga started to think after listening to Rei's words.

Rei had a bad feeling about the silence. Ranga opened his mouth to speak.

「There are adventurers who more or less tame monsters in the city. However, even then, they were rank D monsters I think. For a rank A monster, Griffon.....there are no adventurers.」

Though Ranga said so, for Rei who didn't have a concrete understanding of the world, the difference between rank A and D wasn't very clear. However, he expected that it was ranked by fighting power and danger.

「Also with that, though I digress, you also have to pay taxes to enter the town.」

In this world of Elgin, one silver coin equals ten copper coins. One gold coin is ten silver coins. One platinum coin is ten gold coins and ten platinum coins is one light gold coin.

For Rei to explain it in simple terms, one copper coin is 100 yen, one silver coin is 1,000 yen, one gold coin is 10,000, one platinum coin is 100,000 yen and one light gold coin is one million yen. TLN: The largest currency literally translates to light gold and I can't figure out if it is something the author made up or is referring to a material I don't know, the previous one was white gold or platinum.

「So, with the exception of adventurers, both merchants and travelers have to pay a tax of one silver coin to enter the city every time. 」

Adventurers not being charged tax was a simple story, that is because adventurers don't use the city as their home. Though it is natural if you think about it, if there is a request, it is necessary to go in and out of the city. Paying one silver coin every time they entered would cost a lot. Therefore, the nobles that ruled the city gave an exemption to taxes if an adventurer who belonged to the Adventurers Guild showed their guild card. This is because the return they get from adventurers returning requests is greater than one silver coin.

On a side note, the idea originally spread because a certain avaricious lord refused exemption of taxes for adventurers in the territory he governed. Because of this, all the adventurers left the territory of the lord and new adventurers didn't come. As a result, all the people who could receive monster subjugation quests were gone, and in a vicious circle, merchants who heard about it didn't come eitherthe lord was surprised that the tax revenue had decreased and forcibly collected more taxes, it caused the people to revolt and in the end, the lord was killed. After the story spread, the exemption of adventurers from tax became an unwritten law.

When Rei heard the story from Ranga, he unintentionally let out a sigh.

「In other words, at present, I'm still not an adventurer. Therefore, tax is necessary?」

「That is so. Didn't you receive a parting gift from your master?」

Rei shook his head slightly in response to Ranga's question. In the first place, he couldn't receive a parting gift because his master didn't exist to begin with.

「Un, what to do. If possible, I would lend you money but it's prohibited by the law.....」

Ranga gazed at Rei while muttering.

In Ranga's position, he couldn't afford to let a suspicious person into the city. However, the person in front of him, called Rei, didn't seem to be a bad person. If the rank A monster

Griffon and the large scythe could be used, then he must be a skilled person. The position of the city of Gimuru was on the frontier and there are a considerable amount of monster subjugation quests. If there are skilled adventurers, they can protect the city. He didn't want to miss a skilled person right before his eyes.

Furthermore, at the moment, the city of Gimuru was a frontier city located in the Mireana kingdom, a powerhouse in the central part of the continent of Elgin.

「That's right. Is there anything you have that you can sell? It's possible for me to sell it in a store in the city for you.」

「Things that I can sell.....hey.」

To Ranga's question, he suddenly thought of the items that were given by Zepairu's organization and stored inside the Misty Ring. Other than magic items, there were also a lot of materials such as the bones and scales of dragons. However, as expected, he hesitated about selling them. At present, Rei's position was a commoner that wanted to become an adventurer. He was 165cm tall and had a small back. It would be suspicious if he took out materials and items that would be considered legendary class. He also had the desire to turn the materials into equipment for himself and Set.

(.....No, wait?)

Thinking about it, he suddenly got an idea. Though the items in the Misty Ring that he got from Zepairu couldn't be sold easily, it was different if it was something he obtained himself.

「How about this?」

From the list in his mind, he took out the corpses of 20 Flying Blade Squirrels and the fur of the Water Bear.

「Th-this is.....you have an item box!? These are the Djarum that build nests near the edge of the forest of monsters, and isn't the the fur of a Water Bear and that lives in it! 」

TLN: Here, Ranga refers to the Water Bear as uōtābea, up to now, Rei has referred to it as Mizukuma, which translated means Water Bear. Just a note as it gets a bit confusing ahead.

An expression of surprise appeared on Ranga's face when Flying Blade Squirrels – Djarums – and the fur of the Water Bear suddenly appeared out of nowhere.

Still, although Rei didn't quite understand, the type of magic item called item box, such as the Misty Ring, must be rare, as for those with a storage capacity such as the Misty Ring, there were few enough to be counted on one hand.

「This, I'm wondering.....did you.....kill them?」

「Ah. I ran into a Water Bear after being teleported into the forest.....did you say Water Bear? It started to attack but with Set I was able to take it down somehow. Anyway, it took more time than expected because it was the first time I fought.」

Rei nodded with a wry smile at the naming of the Water Bear, it seems that the name was the same as the literal description in his mind.

「Then, the place you were sent to was the forest of monsters. Although there are a few forests in the area, only the forest of monsters have confirmed sightings of Djarums and Water Bears.」

「Forest of monsters?」

「Ah. Though there are many low rank monsters, the forest is regarded as a dangerous place as it is inhabited by high rank monsters. Because monsters rarely come out from the forest, adventurers are unwilling to go into it. Though sometimes people will go if the material of a specific monster needs to be obtained. Even then, it's unbelievable to be able to defeat a rank C Water Bear in your first fight.」

「Well, I don't mind if you try to imagine it. So, can this fur and the Djarums be bought?」

「Ah, ahh. I can arrange it immediately.」

Ranga returned to his senses at Rei's words, called several subordinates over and sent them into the city with the fur and Djarums. After doing that, he turned to bow at Rei.

「I'm very sorry. Because the assessment and purchase is time consuming I have to make you wait a while here in the guardroom」

「Don't mind it. I brought a Griffon over and couldn't pay the tax but you still recieved me warmly. There isn't anything to be unhappy about.」

「Thank you, I feel better now that you said that.」

Ranga had a wry smile on his face, originally he was polite because if tried to intimidate the other party, who had a rank A Griffon, he didn't stand a chance of beating it.....though it is true that Ranga himself didn't like rough methods.

The method worked out well for him this time.

Rei and Ranga continued the small talk in the guardroom.....an hour passed since the beginning of the questioning. After the time for lunch was over and the afternoon shift began, the soldiers which had gone to sell the fur and Djarums returned.

「Captain, we've just returned. Here is the money we got from selling the goods.」

Ranga passed a small bag, that the soldier had given him, to Rei.

「This, usually the fur of a Water Bear is worth 7 gold coins, but because the fur was a bit damaged, they only gave 5 gold coins. Because the Djarum haven't been dismantled, they gave a total 7 gold coins and 1 silver coin after the cost of dismantling.」

According to the soldier's words, there were 7 gold coins in the bag.

(7 gold coins.....in other words, 70,000 yen. That's a bit less than expected.)

Though Rei clicked his tongue in his mind, he can only blame himself for his mistakes during the dismantling.

He took out one gold coin and passed it to Ranga.

「Yes, that is enough for the tax. Here is 9 silver coins change. Also, put this necklace on Griffon where it can be seen when you walk through the streets. It shows that the monster you brought into the city is tamed or summoned. If a tamed or summoned monster acts violently or damages property, the punishment is directed against the master. In addition, I recommend the inn Dusk Wheat, it is in the eastern part of town and can accommodate animals the size of Griffons. I mean, it's the only inn that can house Griffons.」

「I understand. By the way, where is the Adventurers Guild?」

「When you enter the city, you will see it at once if you go down the main street.」

「Thanks for everything.」

「No worries. So, welcome to the city of Gimuru. I hope you enjoy it here.」

With that, Ranga sent Rei out of the guardroom.

Legend Chapter 12

Legend Chapter 12

The main street in the city of Gimuru. It was currently buzzing with noise and voices.

No, that was the usual situation, there wasn't anything strange about it. The difference was the man at the center of the buzz – although boy may be more correct – and the Griffon that was with him.

「Gururu~」

Worried glances could be seen from the surroundings. Set gave a small cry. The moment the cry was heard, the surroundings immediately became quiet, but soon the noise started up again.

However, it wasn't unreasonable. A rank A monster, Griffon, was walking majestically through the town after all. One of the two necklaces worn around its neck clearly showed that it was a tamed or summoned monster. If it was a wild Griffon, all the commoners in the main street would have run and adventurers, knights and soldiers would be facing it with weapons drawn.

「Don't worry about it. If you don't do anything, they won't do anything either.」

Rei said while scratching Set's head. From the patterns, Rei was wearing an expensive high quality robe. He was also holding a scythe with a 2m long handle and a 1m long blade. Even if Set wasn't there, there was no doubt he would still be the center of attraction.

In addition, although the robe he was wearing was a top class item called Dragon Robe, produced by the alchemist Esta Nord, most people wouldn't see as a magic item. Because of that, it didn't stand out as a magic item when people looked at it.

The noise continued for 10 minutes as they walked down the street. Finally, a building with big sign that said Adventurers Guild came into Rei's sight, as told by Ranga.

「Set, because there's a waiting place for animals and horse carriages, wait for me there. Make sure the necklace can be seen. If someone tries to do something to you, it's okay if you injure them.」

「Guru~」

Set nodded at Rei's voice. The people in the surrounding area had cramped cheeks when they heard Rei's words.

Sending Set to the specified location, Rei headed towards the Adventurers Guild.

「Now, where should I go.」

With a creaking sound, he opened the door to the building. Then, an unexpected view entered Rei's eyes. Rowdy people gathered in great numbers, some drinking Sake and some

arguing, sometimes a voice would raise vulgar laughter.Though Rei expected such a scene, it was different from his expectations. There were definitely places for food and drink in the Adventurers Guild, but there were only about 5 people who looked like adventurers, a few more people were drinking but most seats were vacant.

「Welcome. What business do you have here?」

While Rei curiously looked around the guild, a voice suddenly called out to him. When he turned his eyes in the direction of the voice, there were several receptionists, one of them had called out to Rei.

As expected of the receptionists, who are the face of the Adventurers Guild, they were all beautiful women with great figures. There were beast people with dog ears and cat ears, there was also a woman with sharp ears like an elf. Naturally of course, there were also humans. Among them, a human receptionist with brown hair tied up in a ponytail had called out to Rei.

「I would like to register with the guild.....」

When Rei said that aloud, a voice abruptly came from the direction of the people that had been drinking.

「Gyahaha! This isn't a place for a poor kid like you to come! Shouldn't you be in mommy's skirt?」

「Oi oi, Vargas. Don't tease him. See, everyone is looking. You'll surprise everyone if you put out that voice.」

「Boy, it might be a bit early for you to register at the age of 10.....no, 15. Do you think you can be an adventurer with that frail body?」

「That's right. That weapon is only large, there's no meaning to try to bluff monsters.」

「Oi, Calum. Don't cause an unnecessary commotion during the celebration.」

Although the sober one out of the 5 tried to stop the remaining 4, they were already very drunk. They didn't care about their friend's words and continued to jeer at Rei.

(This is a common development in novels. There weren't any nobles or merchants attacked by bandits when I came to the city of Gimuru but I wonder if events involving the Adventurers Guild can occur. Thinking back, there may have been a reward if I helped a party attacked by bandits, but if the other party are drunk men.....no, wait? The last man said something about celebration. A celebration in a bar attached to the guild, there's no mistake, they must have just finished a quest and came here to celebrate. In that case.....)

「Huh」

Rei directed his line of sight to the jeering men as if they were rubbish before giving a scornful laugh and turning towards the receptionist.

「You there, did you just laugh at us just now!?!」

「Little shit! You don't know your position even though you're a novice who just came to

register with the guild? Aa!?!」

「Oi oi, calm down Vargas, you too Zorito. Afterall, as Zorito said, isn't he just a novice who came to register? Stop being so unreasonable.」

「However, advising the novices is the job of the seniors.」

With 4 people saying things like that while one person hung his head. Rei ignored the 5 people and spoke to the receptionist.

「So, is it possible to register with the guild?」

「E, eh. Sign your name, age and special skills that can be used in combat on the form here, do you need me to write for you?」

「No, it's okay.」

In return to the receptionists words, he picked up the pen.

(Aside from the letters, I think the words are the same. This is thanks to the fusion with Zepairu.)

Thinking about that, he wrote, Name: Rei, Age: 15, Special Ability: fire magic, tamer, close combat, and handed the piece of paper back to the receptionist.

By the way, only nobles had a last name in the world of Elgin. It could also be awarded if some great achievement was accomplished. So of course, Rei, who just came to this world, only wrote Rei on the paper.

「Yes, thank you. Because there is some time before the guild card is ready, I'll give an explanation of the guild.」

With a light bow, the receptionist started to give a description of the guild.

Adventurers registered with the Adventurers Guild are part of a ranking system, the ranks go from H to A. Though there tentatively is a S rank, it is very difficult to enter and there are only 3 S rank adventurers in Elgin. By the way, one of the S ranks in the kingdom of Mireana is from the city of Gimuru.

H rank is the lowest rank and specializes in receiving requests that are needed in the city, you must have at least G rank before you can receive requests that are outside the city. Ranking up from H to G is possible on the first day if the guild's combat examiner assess that you can fight.

Requests can be taken from the request board and can be handed to the receptionists when completed. Because the compensation written on the request paper already accounts for taxes and housing fees in the city, you will receive the full amount specified on the request. Also, if you do not complete the request within the given number of days, you will be penalized and will have to pay the Adventurers Guild 30% of the request reward.

In addition, it is possible to receive requests one rank higher than your current rank, there is no lower limit. For instance, a G rank adventurer can receive F, G, and H rank requests.

You rank can be improved after completing a set number of requests. However, when going up from E to D or C to B, it is necessary to take an exam issued by the guild.

You will understand if you see this guide, G to E are novices, D to C are experienced and B to A are masters.

When forming a party with more than one person, the average rank of the members becomes the party rank, this is clearly described on the guild card. Also, if you have formed a party, you can receive requests two ranks higher.

Registering as an adventurer is free but 5 gold coins are required to re-issue if you lose your guild card.

An adventurer may sell materials from monsters to customers out of his own judgement, in that case, if there is trouble, it does not concern the Adventurers Guild.

In addition, the Adventurer guild will purchase materials and weapon shops, armour shops and magic item shops in the city will sell things 1-2% cheaper. There are also advantages, the purchase assessment is quick and even if there is a large amount of the same material in the market, the payment will still be the same

Since the Adventurers Guild can contact other countries quickly by magic items, you can still rank up your guild card at a different Adventurers Guild branch.

If an adventurer has trouble with a request or other adventurers, the Adventurers Guild is not concerned.

「That's all.」

At the last part concerning disputes, the receptionist turned her gaze to Rei and the adventurers involved.

Tempted, Rei carefully turned his gaze, 4 figures were impatiently waiting for the guild registration to finish. In addition, the one person who tried to stop the 4 had declared his intention of having nothing to do with them and was drinking by himself further away.

As to what the 4 people were thinking, the only explanation that was needed was the receptionist's explanation that any trouble did not concern the guild. At present, Rei was still a civilian before he registered with the guild. Though the guild imposes a penalty if an adventurer uses violence on a civilian, there was no problem if it was a registered adventurer.

「Do you have any questions?」

At the words of the receptionist, Rei opened his mouth after a few seconds.

「For example, what happens if an adventurer of rank H or G defeats a monster from a rank C or B subjugation request?」

「Though it is unfortunate, even if the monster is defeated, the achievement will not be

recognized as they have not received the request. However, there are no problems regarding the sale of materials from the monster.」

「Gyahaha. This idiotic brat just registered and wants to defeat rank C and B monsters. Let's put an end to this irresponsible nonsense.」

「Yeah, yeah, he must be sleep talking to say such nonsense in this place.」

When the group with the adventurers called Vargas and Zorito heard Rei's question, they tried to pick a fight again. However, Rei disregarded it and continued talking to the receptionist.

「I understand. There are no other questions in particular. How long before the guild card is ready?」

「Um.....yes, it's ready. Here's the card. Please confirm if the details are correct.」

In accordance with the receptionist's words, Rei verified the guild card. Guild registration location: Gimuru branch, Name: Rei, Rank: H, Age: 15. Finally, the combat skills listed were fire magic, tamer and close combat.

「There are no problems. By the way, can I ask one last question?」

He asked the receptionist while putting the guild card at his chest.

「Yes, what is it?」

At that question, a smile floated on to his face and turned into a grin. He asked louder on purpose so that the adventurers before could hear it.

「The group over there that are trying to pick a fight are ungraceful, ugly and noisy, what's the guild rank of those drunkards?」

「You!」

Maybe being drunk influenced them. The provocation Rei disguised as a question immediately made them furious

「.....That, the people over there are a rank D party called Claws of the Hawk.」

「Hou~. Claws of the Hawk.....hey. With the way they looked, I thought their name must have been Goblin Drool for sure.」

As soon as Rei said that, there was a Bakii~ sound from where the Claws of the Hawk were sitting. The sound of something breaking was heard. When Rei turned his gaze to the sound, he saw that the man who was called Vargas had made the noise by swinging a large axe and breaking the table.

「For a kid who just registered you have courage. I'll come over in a moment. I'll teach you what your limitations are.」

「Okay. It's an opportunity anyway. All of Goblin Drool can be my opponent.」

「Aah?! The boy said it!」

「I'll teach him some manners!」

They started following Rei out of the guild while holding their weapons.

As they were about to leave the guild, Rei stopped and called out to the receptionist from before.

「Oh yeah, did you say you can get to rank G on the first day of registration if you have combat knowledge?」

「Eh? Ah, yes. That is right.」

「Then, please send a person with authority just outside the guild. I'm applying for rank G.」

「Y-yes. I understand.」

After leaving that message with the receptionist, Rei left the guild.

Legend Chapter 13

Legend Chapter 13

The front of the Adventurers Guild building. Currently, Rei was facing the 4 adventurers that had picked a fight with him.To be accurate it he was in a confrontation.

「Heh, it's too late now. Even if you have some skills, we won't forgive you even if you start crying.」

「I'll repay the insult that Claws of the Hawk received.」

Vargas held a battle axe and Zorito held a long sword in his hand while threatening Rei.

The two adventurers at the back held a bow and dagger respectively as they looked at Rei and grinned.

The 4 people didn't have any armour equipped and were wearing ordinary clothes.

The residents of the city gathered at a distance while curiously looking at Rei and the other 4.

At this time, Vargas and the other 3 were still drunk. They were curious voices from the people who had seen Rei and Set walking down the main street, but they didn't hear.

By the way, as for Set, he had noticed the sign of magic power when Rei came out of the Adventurers Guild. When he lifted his head, he saw Rei wink and closed his eyes before lying back down again.

Although Set was always pampered by Rei, he instinctively guessed the ability of the adventurers standing in front of Rei and judged that there was no problem.

In addition, because Vargas was drunk, he had the thought that Griffons would never be found in downtown and didn't even notice the existence of Set.

No, it would be funny if one expected a Griffon in the city.

「Well, good for nothing Goblin Drool. Why don't we make a bet?」

「.....A bet?」

Goblin Drool, he urged Rei to continue while blue veins appeared on his forehead at the disgraceful party name.

By the way, even the onlookers who heard the name were trying not to smile and laugh at it. Everyone shut up when the man with the bow glared at the surroundings.

「Ah. A bet. I heard a story a little while ago, miraculously, maybe because you used up a lifetimes worth of luck, you succeeded a request at last? So, during your celebration, you picked a fight with me who was just registering. Pride is pointless, that's the truth.....」

「Shut up! Stop talking freely like just before! Used a lifetimes amount of luck?

Fortunately? Finally? You're looking down on us even though you're a novice that just registered!」

To Rei's provocation, Vargas yelled threateningly while waving his battle axe.

The sound of the air as he waved his axe showed that Vargas wasn't just all talk.

「Well, that's difficult to say. So, the contents of the bet. I'll fight the 4 of you from Goblins Drool one at a time. And if you win.....that's right.」

He took a bag of gold coins from his chest and removed the mithril knife and the Misty Ring from his right arm.

「7 gold coins, a knife made from superior mithril and a magic item with an item box function. I'll give these to you.」

It became noisy when Rei held out the items for Vargas to see. Not only that, there were some onlookers who had knowledge on magic items to some extent, they started to explain the value of the goods such as the Misty Ring that Rei had displayed.

「Don't joke! You're just a kid and you only registered with the guild today! Don't try to cheat us with fake things!」

Vargas said angrily. It wasn't for no reason. Aside from the gold coins, there was the mithril knife and item box. If you bought them, it would be worth dozens of light gold coins, hundreds might be necessary. Mithril knife aside, item boxes were a very rare product.

Knowing this, Rei looked haughtily at the 4 people in front of him.

「Whether or not it is the real thing, feel free to judge if you beat me. Well, since I took out articles of this level, you guys have to put out something of equal value.」

「.....」

The 4 people were silent after Rei's words, this was natural. Afterall, Vargas was only a D rank adventurer. This was the first time he had seen a magic box, there was no way he had goods of equal value. However, even though he was made into a fool in front of the crowd, he could only glare at Rei with murderous eyes.

「What's wrong? Display the goods you bet.That said, it's probably impossible, as expected of Goblin Drool. Therefore, I'll allow you to bet everything you have right now. You should have something if you came to celebrate the achievement of a request?」

Hearing Rei's words, Vargas's eyes became more murderous.

In fact, Rei had misunderstood. To Rei, he thought that the 4 people wouldn't have taken their entire fortunes with them and would have left some savings at their inn. However, because of the possibility of it getting stolen, Vargas hadn't left any money at their inn and had brought all of it with them. However, his judgement wasn't that strange. As a frontier

city, Gimuru had good security. But, this didn't mean there were no thieves.

「.....All right.」

「Vargas!?!」

Zorito and the remaining two men looked at Vargas with criticizing eyes when he nodded.

「You must prepare yourselves. We would make a fool of ourselves if we ran now, we would become laughingstock from tomorrow on! We only have to win. If we win, then the mithril knife and the item box will be ours.」

Whether the Vargas's words stimulated their greed, or maybe they understood that they couldn't retreat from the situation, the 3 men stared daggers at Rei.

「If you have decided. Then take out your entire fortune.」

At Rei's words, the 4 men each took a bag of money from their chests and tossed to where the Misty Ring was.

Seeing that situation, Rei opened his mouth as a grin floated onto his face. As if to match the timing, a man walked out the guild door,

「Now then, we'll leave the items here in this place while we fight, it's no fun if someone steals them.Set!」

Though Vargas was suspicious about who Rei called out to, he understood at once.They were forcibly made to understand.

「Gurururururu~!」

While raising a cry, a Griffon over 2m in length that had been lying down instantly leaped up. As half the crowd started running away screaming. Set stood as if guarding the mithril knife and Misty Ring. Still, although half the crowd ran away, half stayed. The information that Rei was accompanied by a Griffon was whispered among the crowd. This was probably because the necklace that Set wore was evidence that he was a tamed or summoned monster.

.....Of course, the average person would normally be scared if they saw a Griffon in public.

「Hii, Hiii~!」

The person with the long sword, Zorito, fell backwards screaming. He wasn't in a state where he could stand up.

Starting with Vargas, all the others that saw Set were stunned.

To the 4 people in the other party, Rei opened his mouth to speak while smiling in ridicule.

「Don't worry, I don't need to borrow Set's claws for Goblin Drool. I'm the only opponent. Set, I'll fight against these 4 one by one now. The prize at your feet goes to the victor.

Although these fellows becoming the winner is an impossible possibility.]

「Guru~」

Set gave a small cry of approval at Rei's words. After confirming the state of the Death Scythe in his hands, Rei called out to Vargas.

「No need to worry, I'll knock you down safely. Hey, let's start at once. Who's first?」

『.....』

When Rei asked, the power that Vargas displayed previously seemed to have vanished, he was silent as his face turned blue. The colour of intoxication on his face a few minutes before had completely vanished.

「Haa, silence is it.Well, okay. Then we'll start from the guy that can't stand up, Zorito. Hey, here I come.」

Declaring that without asking, Rei stepped toward Zorito, who couldn't stand up, with the Death Scythe.

「Hii, Hiii~! Don't come.....don't cooommmmmeee!」

Feeling fear as Rei gradually approached, Zorito desperately grabbed his longsword that was lying on the ground and tried to cut Rei in a panic.

The attack had neither the skill or experience of a D rank adventurer, he just wanted to cut Rei somehow.

「Small fry.」

Naturally, such a blow couldn't hit Rei. In his eyes, the sword was swung recklessly. Moving his body little by little to evade all the attacks, he went into motion with the handle of the Death Scythe.

(Because even the body of the Water Bear was pierced easily, I shouldn't use the stab first.)

As expected, even if he said that they picked a fight, he didn't know what the guild penalty was for killing the other party. So, the aim was to make all of them faint. As Rei judged the length of the sword, he crouched down and dived towards Zorito's body. In return he gave a single blow and hammered the handle of the Death Scythe into Zorito's side at about 30% power.

With a baki~ sound, his hands felt the sense of Zorito's ribs breaking. Even though Zorito was 30cm taller than Rei, his body was still blown to the side.

With crushed ribs, Zorito was blown away and slammed into the wall of the Adventurers Guild.....

「Gafu~!」

Besha~, a sound like that was heard as he fell to the ground.

「That's one person. Next, the dagger user over there. Come.」

Not even looking at the unconscious Zorito, he beckoned to the man with the dagger, who was standing there frozen.

「.....」

However, the man couldn't keep up with the development of the situation and remained motionless.

「Haa. Is this really D rank?」

While letting out a sigh, with one strike of the handle, Rei blew him away like Zorito. The man with the bow and arrow was similarly blown away, each of them ended up with broken arms and ribs.

Glancing at the 3 people that had fainted ungracefully, he then turned towards Vargas, the only remaining person.....

「Tch!?!」

Looking at the face of Vargas before him, he waited for the moment battle axe swung down to strike with the Death Scythe.

Gyin~! While making a shrill sound, the Death Scythe repelled the battle axe.

Even though he held back so as to not kill, after exchanging blows between the handle of the Death Scythe and battle axe, Rei had an interesting look in his eyes.

Needless to say, the Death Scythe was materialized with Rei enormous magic power.....no, to be accurate, it was a magic item. When thinking about how the characteristics and performance would increase as it absorbed magic stones, in fact, it was a rarer item than the Misty Ring.

「The axe, is it a magic item?」

「Shut up! Shit, shit, daaamn iiit!」

While scowling at Rei with hateful eyes, he swung the battle axe down, raised it back up and struck again.

The speed and technique were reasonably high, if someone saw it, they would say that he had a combat ability higher than a rank D adventurer. It was better than Zorito by a large extent, who had blindly swung his sword around with his strength.

In fact, because some time had passed since Rei showed his true power, Vargas had somewhat pulled himself together.

However, Vargas's desperate onslaught wasn't that hard to defend given Rei's physical ability and five senses. Inclining his and turning his body, the blow was evaded and repelled with the handle of the Death Scythe. Swinging it up after scraping the ground, the attack was diverted as it slid across the handle of the Death Scythe.

Such exchange of offense and defense continued for a few minutes. As expected, Vargas continued swinging his axe with full force, Rei forcibly swept it to the side as he took some distance.

「Haa, haa, haa.....」

Vargas took up a distance between Rei, he ascertained the state of his numb arm as he regained his breath

Weight reduction is one of the Death Scythe's characteristics. However only Rei felt the weight as a pair of disposable chopsticks, a person who received a blow would feel that they were hit by a 100kg mass of metal. With that in mind, Vargas was holding up well after exchanging several blows.

「Well, are your arms tired? Then allow me to continue.」

「Shut uppp!」

To the light provocation, Vargas attacked again even though he hadn't fully recovered his breath. This might be reason he was still stuck in D rank despite his combat ability.

The battle axe was swung down with a cry. As Rei saw it, he moved diagonally. In other words, he moved beside Vargas.....with the Shoes of Sleipnir, he kicked the air! Jumping towards Vargas's body in a triangle hop.....he held the arm that was holding the battle axe. Before it had swung down, he hit the elbow, side and knee joint consecutively with the handle of Death Scythe.

His elbow was broken and the battle axe fell to the ground, his side was hit and his ribs broken, with a broken knee joint, he fell to the ground,

The attacks were carried out in a blink of an eye, Vargas fainted due to the pain and toppled to the ground.

Legend Chapter 14

Legend Chapter 14

A 1 vs 4 fight. Aside from that, it was 4 D rank adventurers against a rookie that just registered at the Adventurers Guild today.

If you thought about it normally, the winner of the fight was obvious. However, the actual conclusion was the rookie shutting out the 4 D rank adventurers in a clean sweep.

Of course, there were various reasons why Rei won, half the watchers were convinced while the other half were unbelieving. In their vision, an adventurers rank was absolute.

Some people understood, for Rei to be accompanied by a rank A monster Griffon, he must have some ability. As for the unbelieving people, he was only a 165cm tall person who was neither big or muscular.

While being watched by the onlookers, Rei called to Set.

「Set.」

「Gururu~!」

With a joyful cry, he left the spot and passed the items he was protecting to Rei as the prize for the fight..

Firstly, he re-quipped the Misty Ring on his right arm, then he returned the mirthril knife to his waist. Putting his money bag back to his chest, he took the bag of gold that Vargas had bet and stored it into the Misty Ring.

(I will invite unnecessary people if I count the money in front of so many people, I'll confirm how much there is when I get to the inn later.)

A person in the crowd clicked their tongue. When Rei heard it, he saw the person who had clicked their tongue and recalled who he was..

「Well, is that okay?」

The voice that called out was from the man that came out of the guild and indicated the fight area. He had watched and spoke out at a suitable time, Rei shook his head at his words.

「No, give me a little bit longer.」

He replied shortly to the man. Sequentially, he took the long sword, two daggers, a bow, arrows and the battle axe that was lying on the ground and stored them into the Misty Ring.

「.....I thought it wasn't necessary to take their weapons.」

The man that was watching called out reprovngly, but Rei shook his head in silence.

「In the first place these people picked a fight and the contents of the bet was all their

property. They should be grateful and thank me for not stripping their clothes.」

There were also other reasons why he didn't want to strip the men's clothes.

「.....Well, okay. The guild policy is not to interfere between adventurer conflicts. Though I don't think I need to confirm it again, the rules mean that I have to check. Are you Rei?」

「Ah.」

「You're hoping for a rank up from H to G?」

「That's right. If you have combat knowledge, I heard you can rank up from H to G on the first day?」

「Certainly.」

「So, I think I was able to show my combat ability from the battle before.....is the rank up possible?」

「There are no complaints. A rookie who just just registered with the guild knocking down a D rank adventurer party alone.....although I saw it with my own eyes it's unbelievable. However, since I saw it, I'll believe it.」

Interested in the words of the man, who was smiling wryly, Rei observed him. He was in his late thirties to forties, from the scar that could be seen on his cheek, he was probably a former adventurer. His height was about the same as Vargas, 190cm, and seemed to have a muscular body.

Urged by the man to re-enter the guild, Rei faced the guild, disregarding the curious gazes of the spectators.

By the way, Set returned to the place he was at before and lay down again after he saw Rei go back into the guild.

Also, the residents of Gimuru were of course happy that even though the spectators were curious, none of them were reckless enough to meddle with Set.

「We've already entered the guild, but what about those guys lying outside?」

「As I said earlier, it has been ruled that the guild will not intervene in problems between adventurers. So, your guild card.」

Following the man's words, the man walked further inside after Rei gave his guild card. As the man walked away, Rei looked around the guild. The people who had seen the commotion earlier wore expressions of astonishment and assent as they looked at Rei.

Among the people who were looking, one man approached Rei.

Rei remembered the man. At the beginning, he was one of the people drinking with Vargas, he had left to drink by himself when Vargas picked a fight with the rookie Rei.

「That was surprising, after all, what to say.....well, it feels like everything fell into place.」

「.....You are?」

「Runo. Though I think you know, I'm a person who formed a temporary party with the fools who picked a fight with you.」

「.....Temporary?」

「Yes. Those guys said that the request this time was tough. That's the reason I temporarily joined their party as an assistant. I wonder what they were thinking, getting involved with a monster like you. With that party, I'll receive damage if I stayed with them.」

Monster. Hearing that word, Rei's cheeks twitched.

It didn't hurt his feeling that he was called a monster. In the first place, Rei thought that about half his body was like a monster. However, that was true because Rei knew the performance of his body. The existence of Set probably wasn't even noticed by those inside the guild.

「Monster, eh. Why would you call me that? It can't be.....by appearance?」

He watched Runo closely so as to not miss any suspicious movements.

However, Runo quickly shook his head, showing that he had no hostility.

「Oi oi, don't look at me like that. When I said that, I was honest.」

「.....So?」

Prompted by Rei, Runo continued with cold sweat.

「To begin with, the reason why I partnered up with Vargas was because I have an extraordinary type of eyes called magic eyes.」

「Magic eyes?」

「Ah.Even I say that, its not a powerful magic eye where I can enchant or petrify things by looking at them. My magic eyes only have one ability. I can see magic power.」

「Seeing magic power.....eh.」

「Ah. As for working with Vargas this time, there is a dungeon a few days from here, one of the levels has magic traps. For the purposes of clearing it, my eye was necessary. So, when I looked at you with my magic eyes.....you magic power has a quantity and concentration that honestly can't be explained in any words other than monster.」

「.....I see. You've convinced me for now.」

As he nodded, Rei's interest turned towards the dungeon.

Dungeon. For some reason, when magic power gathers, an existence can form with the materialization of a nucleus. The monster that gains power due to the nucleus becomes the boss monster of the dungeon, the scale of the dungeon gradually increases unless the boss monster is defeated.

Once the boss monster has been defeated at least once, the scale of the dungeon will become fixed.

Furthermore, because of the dungeon's nature to accumulate magic power, common beasts entering and turning into monsters was a common story. In addition, whenever the number of monsters in the dungeon dropped below a certain number, the nucleus would either transfer monsters to it or create new monsters.

Though the dungeon disappears if the nucleus is destroyed, the material and monsters that the dungeon created will not disappear, adventurers who aim to get money gather the drops. There will be a profit exceeding the disadvantages as merchants will come to purchase the materials.

(Dungeon.....saying that there are a lot of monsters, going there sooner or later with Set is not a bad idea. Getting some decent skills is also good. The problem is with the Death Scythe and fire magic, I can only afford to do combat maneuvers with Set if there is enough space.)

As Rei thought this in his head, the man who took his guild card came back.

「What, you seem to get along with Runo even though he formed a temporary party with Vargas and that rowdy bunch.」

「Gran, don't say unnecessary things. Because I was friends with Vargas I had a lot of trouble clearing the misunderstanding.」

「Runo is the same as usual. Rei, I'll tentatively introduce Runo as an able adventurer. Basically, he is a fighter, can use some attack magic, can use some recovery magic and is a convenient fellow who also has some thievery skills.」

The man, Gran, explained Runo's capabilities as he passed the guild card. While listening to him talk, Rei muttered.

「In other words, Jack of all trades, master of none.」

「.....No, well, it's not entirely true. I wonder if it was a little bit unclear.」

「There's no doubt this guy is convenient to have in a party. Hey, why don't you form a party with Runo?」

Gran recommend that Rei should form a party with Runo.

Actually, Gran had expectations for the new guy Rei.....his abilities were outstanding – normally, a rookie wouldn't be able to take 4 D rank adventurers in a one sided fight – anyway, he had high expectations for Rei's talent. However, he seemed to have problems with interpersonal relationships as he immediately got into trouble with a D rank adventurer party right after registering. Therefore, although Rei's abilities were powerful, he hoped that Runo would be able to help improve his interpersonal relations if they were in the same party.

「Sorry. I intend to work solo for now. I have a companion already.」

Rei refused frankly. In the first place, the material of a monster that sells the most is the magic stone. However, Rei's purpose was to let the magic stones be absorbed by Set and the Death Scythe, also, there was definitely going to be disagreements when in a party.

「.....Well, certainly it would be leisurely if you have a Griffon for a companion.」

「Griffon?」

Because Runo was in the guild the entire time, naturally, he never heard any news about Set.

Gran noticed that and his mouth turned into a grin.

「I see, you don't know since you were drinking alone when Vargas went out. Rei over there tamed a Griffon.」

「.....Really?」

Runo asked disbelievingly, Rei answered with a nod as he placed the guild card into the Misty Ring.

TLN: There's three people talking to each other now so I'll put a note here for who's talking to who.

「Now then. The rank improvement has been updated, I must get going soon. You should find him an inn.」 (Runo to Gran)

「I see. It's a pity.....by the way, have you decided on an inn?」(Gran to Runo then Gran to Rei)

「Ah. I was told by a guard called Ranga to go to the Dusk Wheat Pavilion. I mean, I heard that it was the only inn that has the facilities to take care of Set.」(Rei to Gran)

Gran nodded at Rei's explanation. Gran knew that the Dusk Wheat Pavilion was the only inn that could take care of a Griffon. If he hadn't decided on an inn, he was going to introduce that place.

「I see. You seem to already know. After going out of the guild go straight to the right until you see a sign saying Dusk Wheat. You'll know immediately when you see a sunset and wheat symbol.」

「Ah, thank you.」

Thanking Gran, Rei left the guild. While seeing Rei's back as he left, Gran had a premonition that the future would become becoming noisy in various ways.

「Guru~」

When Rei approached, Set opened his eyes and gave a happy cry.

「I kept you waiting. Since the only accommodation seems to be the Dusk Wheat Pavilion, let's get going quickly.」

Rei talked while stroking the smooth hair on Set's back.....

「Gururu~」

Having never been separated from Rei since he was born, Set was quite dependent and rubbed his head against Rei.

After caring for Set for about 10 minutes, they left the guild.

Legend Chapter 15

Legend Chapter 15

「Here it is.」

Rei muttered as he stopped on the road with Set. Though people passing by avoided Rei and Set, they ignored them and looked up at the signboard.

Drawn on the signboard was a sun setting on the horizon, a sheaf of wheat was dyed red by the evening sun. 『Dusk Wheat』 It could be said that the name of the inn was expressed on the signboard.

The size of the inn was about the same as the other inns Rei saw on the way from the guild. Traditionally, the first floor has a bar and dining room, the second and third floors were inn rooms. The difference was the size of the stables that was built at the back of the inn. It was the same size as other inns combined. Originally, large caravans with mercenaries or visiting nobles with attendants would frequently stay at the Dusk Wheat. By the way, in the previous example, it was common for a noble to spend a few White Gold coins to stay a night at the inn.

The door made a gyi~ sound as he opened it. Because it was not past the afternoon, there weren't many people. A few people were dining in the bar on the first floor.

「Welcome. Are you here for a meal? Or are you staying for the night?」

A stout middle-aged woman called out to Rei when she saw him enter.

「I would like a room. Also, I would like to leave a monster I tamed in the stables.」

The woman nodded with a pleased smile when she heard Rei's words.

「Yes, thank you very much. The inn charges payment in advance, it's 3 silver coins a night with morning and evening meals. However, in the case of staying for 10 days it's 2 gold coins and 7 silver coins. With that, what is the tamed monster?」

「It's a Griffon.」

「.....I see.」

Although she stopped moving for an instant after hearing Griffon, she immediately pulled herself together, showing more guts than the men in the neighbourhood, and returned her eyes to Rei,

She had interacted with adventurers and mercenaries on a daily basis.

「A Griffon is big.....including the fees for feed and space in the stables it is 2 silver coins a night. For 10 days it's 1 gold and 8 silver coins.」

「Ah, thanks.」

He nodded and took out 5 gold coins from the bag in his chest without any problems.

In the first place, he heard that this was the only inn that he and Set could stay in, since there wasn't a choice, he didn't mind it.

「Thank you, here are 5 silver coins change. Someone from the inn will guide you to the stables immediately, can you take the Griffon with you?」

「Okay. The first floor seems to be a bar, but can you eat here as well?」

「Yes. However, it costs extra to the morning and evening meals.」

Listening to the woman's words, he gave one of the silver coins he received.

「Please prepare lunch, I would like to have it after going to the stables and dropping off my luggage. Some for the Griffon as well.」

「I understand.It's a bit late to say it but I'm Lana, the proprietress of the Dusk Wheat.」

「I see, I'll be in your care for a while. I'm Rei. The Griffon in the stable is called Set.」

「Yes, nice to meet you.Ah, he seems to have come. That kid will guide you to the stables.」

A young man who looked about 20 was called by Lana. It could be Lana's son, their features were very similar.

「This kid called Dram is my son. You can talk with this kid about the monster since he's in charge of the stables. Dram.」

Prompted by Lana, Dram bowed his head. Similar to his mother, he wore a honest smile on his face.

「Nice to meet you, I'm Dram. Going to the point, I'll guide you to the stables at once.」

「Ah. The monster is in the stable.」

「Yes, then please come with me first. We must be cautious around monsters.」

Nodding to Dram's words, the two people headed to the stables. By the way, after seeing Dram off, Lana headed to the kitchen to ask them to prepare the meal that was asked for.

「Uwaa~.....it's a splendid Griffon.」

Was the first thing Dram said when he saw Set. Rei heard it and looked at Dram with a surprised face.

Since coming to the city of Gimuru, Dram was the first to raise his voice with pure admiration on his face, others who saw Set were all frightened with fear on their faces.

「Guest, um, is it safe to stroke it?」

「Guru~」

On the contrary, he even asked if he could touch it. In this situation, Set, and not just Rei, gave a favourable response, giving a happy cry.

Rei nodded while having a strange smile on his face.

「Ah. It seems like Set likes you.」

「In that case, pardon me.....」

He stretched out his hand to stroke the smooth silky hair that had grown on Set's back.

「It's great.....this is the first time I've touched a Griffon, it has a smooth feel.」

Dram was impressed as he said that, of course, the smooth touch of the Griffon was specific to Set, normal Griffons had coarser feel.

「Well, could you guide him to a satisfactory place in the stables?」

「Ah, yes! I'm sorry. I'll guide you there immediately.」

Following Dram's guidance, they went through a side road close to the entrance of the inn, soon, the stables came into view.

As expected, it was suitable to accommodate large caravans and mercenary parties, it was almost the same size as the first floor of the Dusk Wheat.

「Here, please.」

Although there was a peculiar smell of animals and monsters as they entered the stables, according to Dram's words, it was kept clean. In addition, the figures of the horses of customers staying at the Dusk Wheat could be seen.

However, most of the horses wouldn't calm down and looked around restlessly when they saw the appearance of Set, moving their bodies little by little.

The difference in status may have been felt instinctively.

「Ah, I'm sorry. You can see the state of some of the other customer's horses, I'll let this child rest in a separated place.」

As Dram apologized, he took Set to the place furthest from the horses.

「So then, I wonder if it is okay for Set to stay here.」

「Guru~」

When Dram called his name, Set gave a cry of approval.

「.....Rei, does Set.....understand people's words?」

Seeing Dram notice Set nod, Rei gave a wry smile.

「Because it's an A rank monster, it can understand the words of most people.」

At most, a usual A rank monster can only understand human words to a certain degree and it is not possible to understand perfectly like Set, however, Dram didn't seem to know and gave an impressed nod.

While watching the situation, Rei called out to Set, who was behind Dram.

「Dram, I'll leave Set's care to you. Please give him some food after settling him, he hasn't eaten anything since morning. Money has been passed to the proprietress.」

「Ah, yes. I understand.」

「Then, Set. behave yourself here.」

「Guru~」

After Rei scratched his head and left, Set gave a lonely cry.

「Guest, your meal is ready.」

When he re entered the inn, Lana's voice called out from a seat at the bar.

「As expected, because it was prepared before dinner, it's made with what was on hand.....」

Saying so, there was a meat stew and plenty of bread. There was also, cheese, wine and a vegetable salad.

Losing to the sound of his stomach, he took a bite of the meat stew. As soon as he savoured it, the flavour of meat spread through his mouth.

「Delicious.」

「Thank you very much.」

The words involuntarily came from his mouth, Lana bowed her head while smiling.

「Because the price of our inn is higher than others, we have put an emphasis on the food.」

Expensive, Rei reacted when he heard that word.

(3 silver per night. In other words, breakfast and dinner for 3,000 yen. Though I thought it was cheap.....well, I guess it's natural that price differences exist between Japan and a fantasy world's frontier city.)

「By the way, what is the meat in this stew?」

Rei tried asking out of curiosity as it had a similar taste to the wild boar meat that he had eaten in Japan when a hunter in the neighbourhood shared some.

However, Lana returned the question with a strange look.

「What meat.....it's the meat of a Fang Boar? Haven't you eaten it? It's a common meat around here.」

Rei stopped moving the spoon to his mouth for an instant, but then immediately continued talking without changing his face.

「No, my master told me to train and forcibly teleported me here using space magic. I just

became an adventurer today, I don't know anything about the area.」

「Ah, he was a magician. That's very dreadful. Do your best to eat our cooking.」

Tricking Lana, he searched Zepairu's knowledge.

(Information on a Fang Boar.....doesn't exist. It's become completely useless. In that case, the first thing tomorrow is gathering information at a guild or library somewhere.)

While thinking so, he ate the bread and vegetable salad, tasted the cheese and drank the wine last.

By the way, although it was the body of a 15 year old, he finished the meal without getting drunk, it seems Zepairu's organization had given it some alcohol tolerance.

「Phew.....lots of things happened today.」

A corner room on the second floor. Rei's room was there. It can be said that the price was high for a frontier town, however, there were no complaints as it was a neat room with a a bed a futon. Particularly, the futon had been sun dried as he could smell the air. The Dragon Robe was taken off and he muttered to himself as he lay on the bed.

「Come to think of it, when I find more information about the world tomorrow, I should also look at the calendar. Zepairu's knowledge is confusing. 」

Zepairu's knowledge in Rei, could only be used as a reference in this world, especially about common sense. No, he judged that he should search the contents as his preconception may be different from the present common sense.

「Of course, magic.....no, I wonder what use there is for magic.」

As he muttered, the Misty Ring on his right arm suddenly came into view. When he saw it, he remembered the money and items that he had taken from Vargas a few hours ago.

Getting up from his prone state, he took out 4 money bags from the list in his mind and spread the contents on the bed. Counting the money, there were 4 White gold coins, 8 gold coins, 15 silver coins and 9 copper coins.

「Including what they would have in their room, this amount of money.」

Rei muttered, however, he didn't know that this was literally the total assets Vargas had.

「Dungeon searching seems to be quite lucrative.....to some extent.」

There were various monsters and the magic stones and materials could be taken from them. If there are a lot of monsters, Rei could earn a lot of money.....in addition, it was an attractive place for adventurers. However, you couldn't call it low risk high return, a certain amount of strength was required. What was most painful for Rei was that the dungeon was narrow. Though there was no combat problems for normal adventurers, for the long Death

Scythe and the 2m large Set, it would be difficult.

「We will go to the dungeon, after improving our combat power.」

Rei concluded that for the time being, put the money back into the Misty Ring and looked at the weapons he took from Vargas.

One long sword. Two daggers, a quiver and a bow. And a battle axe, which was the main magic item.

By the way, the long sword was called iron sword, both daggers were called iron daggers, the bow was just a bow. The name of the battle axe was Power Axe.

Knowing the name was an effect of the Misty Ring. The name of the weapon was neatly displayed in the list in his mind. As a result, Rei understood that he could put in unknown items into the Misty Ring to see the name.

Looking at them, he returned them to the Misty Ring while letting out a sigh.

The long sword and battle axe could be used if the Death Scythe got in the way. The high performance mithril knife could be used as a dagger. Though he could barely use it, there was a bow. However, in that case, he could attack an approaching enemy at a long distance with the bow and swap to the Death Scythe when it got close.

「Well, I can leave the long sword for emergencies. The daggers can probably be thrown. As for the remaining bow, arrows and battle axe.....well, there's no need to decide so soon.」

In the first place, he had a considerable buffer in his pockets because of the money he took from Vargas, Rei judged it was necessary and bought some hot water for 3 copper coins, he then slept until supper after cleaning his body.

By the way, dinner was a steak of a monster called Kelpie and a stew made from it's offal.

Legend Chapter 16

Legend Chapter 16

It was the day after Rei arrived at the city of Gimuru. After eating and finishing the preparations for going out, Rei went to the stables.

「Gururu~!」

As Set saw Rei enter the stables, he gave a joyful cry.

「Did you sleep well last night?」

「Guru~」

Full of energy, Set seemed to say as he stretched. A smile floated on to his face as Rei scratched his head.

「I see. So then, what do you want to do today? Because there seems to be a library, I want to look around there.....so do you want to stay here or do you want to come to the library with me? Well, if you come to the library with me, you'll probably have to wait outside like at the Adventurers Guild yesterday, they won't let you in.」

To Rei's words, Set came over and rubbed his head. He appealed with whole body to be brought along.

「I see.」

Smiling at Set's appearance, Rei took him out of the stables.

Because Dram told Rei during breakfast that he could take Set out of the stables, there was nothing to worry about taking Set into the main street.

The moment Set appeared on the street, in the same way as yesterday, people walking nearby took a few steps back in astonishment. However, as information from yesterday about Rei and Set had circulated to some extent, less people than Rei expected screamed and ran away. In other words, some people ran away without even seeing the necklace on Set that showed that he was a tamed or summoned monster.

Also, the name of the necklace was『Necklace of Subservient Monster』. He was told by Dram during breakfast.

「Guru~」

Seeing the reactions in the surroundings, Set gave a cry. Rei patted Set lightly and with Set following, walked in the direction of the library he had heard from the landlady during breakfast.

Walking along the main street, they passed the front of the Adventurers Guild. Seeing an appetizing kebab store, Rei bought some to eat with Set.However, while Rei wasn't a big

eater, because of Set, he bought 30 kebabs for several silver coins.

But, because Rei bought such a large quantity, he was judged to be a good customer. Maybe reassured by the Necklace of Subservient Monster, many people called out to him. As for the merchants, seeing the monster, they recognized that the person buying could be a customer.

As they walked along the road while eating, the building that the landlady told him about came into view. The library. However, even if it was a library, he was told that the number of books wasn't great because Gimuru was a frontier city. However, it was the only place with the knowledge that Rei needed.

「Set, wait here for me.」

「Guru~」

The same as yesterday at the Adventurers Guild, he parted from Set at the place where carriages and tamed or beasts waited and entered the library.

「Welcome. Have you come to use the library?」

As he entered the building, a voice immediately called out from the reception, Rei approached while nodding.

「Ah. Please tell me how to use it.」

The receptionist, who looked like she was in her twenties, continued while barely changing her expression.

「Using the library is 5 silver coins per day. However, as the guarantee money for damaged books is included in this, if the returned books are not damaged or dirtied, 3 silver coins will be refunded. In addition, please be warned that an additional charge from the 3 silver coins may have to be paid if the books are damaged or dirtied. If you leave without paying, a request will be put to the Adventurers Guild and the money owed given as a reward. If it is necessary to copy something, we sell 10 sheets of paper and a pen for 3 copper coins.」

Rei frowned his eyebrows slightly when he was told that 5 silver coins were necessary as a deposit, however, he paid the fee without complaining.

Back in his life on Earth, Rei was able to use libraries free of charge, in this world, books are expensive. It wasn't uncommon to buy rare books for platinum and Light gold coins.

「Yes, that's enough. Please get the librarian's signature on this document when you leave the library. You should have no problems if you don't damage the books. The 3 silver coins deposit can be refunded using this document. So then, take your time.」

Passing a document in exchange for the silver coins, the receptionist gave a bow. Holding the document, he went to where the books were placed while wryly smiling at the differences with library he knew.

「.....I see.」

Were the words that leaked from Rei's mouth as he looked inside the library.

According to Rei's senses, it was the size of several school libraries, 2m long bookshelves were lined up at regular intervals. Various books, big and small, were displayed, desks and chairs for up to four people were lined up near where the librarian's desk was.

As Rei looked around, he gave up the idea of looking for a book on his own and went to the counter. He called out to the librarian, who was a middle-aged man in his forties.

「Sorry, are you available now?」

「Yes, what would you like?」

「I'm looking for information about a man named Zepairu, is there a book related to him?」

「Zepairu, is it? Give me a minute. I've certainly read that somewhere before.....」

After short time, the man opened his mouth with a smile as he remembered something.

「Ah, I think its the name of a Majin I heard somewhere.」

「.....Majin? What's with the nasty name?」

Rei instinctively asked when he heard the unexpected word. The librarian man replied with a strange look.

「Hm, is it a different person? However, that's the only famous person with the name Zepairu.」

「.....Is there a book written about the Majin?」

「Because it's like a myth or fairy tale, it should be on the shelf on the right, straight at the end of the corridor.」

「Is that so. Thank you very much.」

After thanking the librarian, he went to the bookshelf, took out several possibly related books and moved them to the desk.

「Now then, I wonder what I'll find.」

It was in his expectations that the information had been skewed, however, since he fused with Zepairu, he knew the knowledge himself. Determining so, he opened a book and read the page.

Zepairu. A person who is said to have existed thousands of years ago and led a group of magicians. That alone isn't too special, however, the magicians he led at the time were all eminent people in the world, it should also be noted that he was the magician who taught them.

It was assumed that the combat power of the group of magicians was enough to instantly destroy a country, because of that, he was treated as a dangerous person by many countries at the time. There was a country that tried to force them to become part of the military, but

the country that tried to do that disappeared from world in a single day. Mighty magicians with might magic. That is how they came to be known as Majin.

「.....」

This, Rei unintentionally stopped his words as he held his head. Although he thought that there was a time difference between his knowledge and reality, he still didn't think it would be thousands of years. According to Zepairu, only several hundred years had passed. In actuality, it was thousands of years. Rei had a headache, the difference was nearly 10 times.

That said, because he has already come to this world, he can't do anything. Convincing himself to continue to live in this world, he returned the books to the bookshelf without reading any more about Zepairu.

Then, to stabilize his mind, he read some books about the world and some that would help adventurers.

After reading, he understood. There were 24 hours in a day and 30 days in a month. A year had 12 months, there were hardly any differences with Earth. The days of the week were Ji, Mizu, Hi, Kaze, Hikari, Yami and Mu. TLN: The days are actually the characters for earth, water, fire, wind, light, dark and nothing, but using those as days in English feels a bit weird so I've used the romanizations.

However, because clocks were a type of magic item, ownership of one was limited to wealthy merchants and nobles. Then how did other people keep the time? A bell would sound in town every 3 hours. 6 am, 9 am, 12 noon, 3 pm, 6 pm, 9 pm, most people would roughly know the time as the bell sounded 6 times a day.

Elsewhere, he took and read a book about the necessities of an adventurer, but what attracted Rei's interest the most was the book titled『Beginners Guide to Dismantling Monsters』.

Though he had removed the fur of the Water Bear reasonably well, it was still sold cheaply because he was careless with the process. Since he was living as an adventurer from now on, the method to dismantling monsters was indispensable. That said, because Rei judged that it would take too much time to copy it, he spoke to the librarian.

「Sorry, are you available?」

「Yes, what would you like?」

「Can this book be bought?」

Rei asked as he held the book Beginners Guide to Dismantling Monsters. However, the librarian had an apologetic face as he shook his head.

「I'm very sorry. This book cannot be bought or sold. It won't stop if it starts.Ah, however.」

He looked at the book that Rei presented while apologizing, he then looked up as if he

noticed something.

「But?」

「That, I think there was an identical book at the city bookstore. I saw it about 2 weeks ago, I don't know if it is still there as there was only one copy.」

「No, thank for the information. Can you tell me the location of the bookstore?」

「Yes.」

He heard the location from the nodding librarian and hesitated on what to do next.

2 silver coins, because of the moderate amount of money he paid, he wanted to read some more books about the world. However, he also wanted to buy the book Beginners Guide to Dismantling Monsters that the librarian saw in the bookstore. Though Rei hesitated for a while, because books in the library don't disappear, he decided to come again later. Getting the signature on the document, he handed it to the receptionist, received the security deposit back and left the library.

Meeting with Set, who was waiting outside the library, he went to the bookstore and bought the book for the considerable sum of 1 gold coin. After buying a change of clothes and some other items, he returned to the Dusk Wheat.

Legend Chapter 17

Legend Chapter 17

The next day, he went to the library. A little bit after the first bell rang, the figure of Rei could be seen in the Adventurers Guild. Of course, Set waited at the area for carriages outside the guild.

「It's quite different from the day before yesterday.」

The day before yesterday, there were only several requests pasted on the Adventurers Guild board and few people, the number of people drinking in the bar now was much greater.

But although it was busy.....it wasn't too crowded. A considerable number of people were standing in front of the board, eagerly receiving quests for their rank.

It was an unexpected development to Rei, that the Adventurers Guild was busiest in the morning. However, it's natural if you think about it, quests received in the morning are carried out during the day, they are returned in the evening and the reward received. This is because the city is the best place to live.

Though there are people who specialize in receiving night quests, they are a minority.

「Hey, the young one wearing the robe. Are you the guy that fought Vargas by himself?」

「.....What? I heard there wasn't much of a size difference between him and Vargas?」

「But the story I heard was a delicate female adventurer.....」

Taking no notice of the adventurers who were looking at Rei's unfamiliar figure, he looked for F and G rank quests that had been fixed to the board.

That said, Rei had little expectations for rank G and F quests. After all, there's not much point in using the Magic Beast Art to absorb the magic stones of weak monsters. Therefore, he wanted to accept a subjugation quest for a suitable monster, he looked for a monster that Set and Death Scythe could absorb a skill from.....that was Rei's aim.

「But, still.....well, these are mostly quests for beginners.」

The contents of the requests entered Rei's eyes, G rank quest, deliver the meat of a Fang Boar and Horned Rabbit, collect medicinal herbs to make potions. Gathering materials for anesthetics in case of serious injuries. The rest were all similar.

Seeing such requests, he let out a sigh. Even though there was a quest close to what he wanted, the target of the subjugation request was too weak. With that said, Fang Boars and Horned Rabbits were like the wolves he fought in the forest and were not monsters. The G rank requests were basically all of this form. Originally, the quests were mainly for training people who had ranked up from H to G and had only done quests in the city.

Next, he moved to the F rank board to look at the requests.

Goblin subjugation, delivery of slime magic stones, Poison Toad subjugation, most of the quests were monster subjugation quests for weak monsters or delivery quests.

「Well, at least they've got some over here. Talking about fantasies, Goblins are a must.」

Muttering quietly, he read the Goblin subjugation request.

The Goblin subjugation quest was a regularly requested quest, the proof of subjugation are the right ears of the Goblins. The minimum subjugation number is 5. The written exchange rate is 3 copper coins for 1 ear.

Even if it was a quest for low rank adventurers, the reward was cheap. Rei unintentionally knit his eyebrows, 5 ears were 15 copper coins, in other words, 1 silver and 5 copper coins. Staying at the Dusk Wheat cost Rei 3 silver a night, this was because it was a high quality inn in the city of Gimuru. As for beginners who just registered with the guild, they usually stay in cheap inns that cost 5 coppers a night, because of this, it was common for people to form parties with others in similar situations.

With his talent, Rei was an existence far apart from the normal adventurer.

He tore off the paper for the Goblin subjugation request and brought to the receptionist with the ponytail that had talked with him when he entered the guild for the first time.

Some of the surrounding adventurers watched with a surprised expressions. Because he could fight 4 D rank adventurers by himself, it was unexpected that he would take the quest to subjugate Goblins, one of the weakest monsters. If there are Goblins then it definitely is a fantasy, no one would have expected that it was picked for simplistic reasons.

It's highly probable that Set and the Death Scythe would not grow by absorbing the magic stones of F and G rank monsters even if they fought them. However, his decision wasn't a bad one.

『Goblin』

A race of demons with the stature of a human child. They have green skin, an angular forehead and short fingers. Weak as an individual, they can easily be defeated by a human accustomed to fights. However, they have the habit of gathering together and like to act in groups. In addition, while they have a primitive intelligence, they will still arm themselves with weapons they pick up or steal.

While passing the quest paper to the receptionist, he pulled information about Goblins from Zepairu's knowledge.

「The Goblin subjugation quest. Though there shouldn't be a problem with your strength, please be careful not to let your guard down.」

「Ah, so the Goblin's location.....」

「Well about that, they seem to appear frequently near the forest along the highway to the city of Gimuru. Recently, they have attacked merchants and travelers to Gimuru in groups.」

「Do the Goblins there have any intelligence?」

「No, usually not. Nevertheless, there is a possibility that a rare species has been born.」

Rare species are individuals who were born with some kind of mutation. In the case of rare species, they boast a higher intelligence than the normal monster and are one rank higher than the monster information published by the guild. In other words, because the Goblin's rank is F, a rare species Goblin would be the equivalent of a rank E monster.

Having accepted the quest accepted by the receptionist, he exited out of the guild.

Though the knowledge of Zepairu hadn't been used recently, the standard fantasy Goblin, which had existed for thousands of years, could be found in Zepairu's knowledge without any problems as they were around when he was alive..

「Guru~」

As Set found Rei walking out the guild, he stood up while giving a happy cry.

People walking past gasped and quickly moved away when they saw Set get up. Ignoring it, Set went up to Rei and rubbed his head against him.

「Gururu~」

「Sorry about this. We'll go at once.」

「Gururu~!」

Set gave a cry to Rei's words. Together with Set, they walked along the main street to the gate.

「Hey, it's been a few days since. Your activities have already been heard here.」

Ranga, who was at the side of the gate, called out as soon as he saw Rei and Set.

Activities, Rei thought about the incident with Vargas and involuntarily smiled as he took his adventurer card from the Misty Ring to show Ranga.

「I'll say this for now, I only did that because I got involved with a fool.」

「.....Not just the money they had, I heard you also took their weapons?」

「Ah. That's because we bet all our property. That was natural.」

He removed the Necklace of Subservient Monster from Set's neck and passed it to Ranga.

「I feel sorry for them.....each of the Claws of the Hawk went through here earlier before with weapons several ranks below them.」

Listening to the words Ranga said as he shook his head, Rei felt surprised.

(That party, going out of the city of Gimuru as soon as they could.....they have more guts than I expected)

「No problems. So then, be careful.....well, worrying might be unnecessary since you have a Griffon.」

「Ah maybe. So, Set. You can first look from the sky.」

「Guru~」

Sitting on Set's back, he took a run up of several meters while flapping his big wings. They flew into the sky, disregarding the shocked look of Ranga

「Gurururururu~!」

A bit after leaving the city of Gimuru, Set gave a loud cry, as if to release his stress. Rei stroked his back while thinking.

(If you think about it, it hasn't been long since Set was born. Even if his birth was special through the Magic Beast Art, his stress may have piled up by being confined to the stables a few days after birth.)

Though Rei brought him out of the stables when he went out, the narrow passages, inability to fly in the city and the fearful looks people gave him must have stressed him a lot.

Thinking about this, when this was done, Rei decided to take as many quests for outside the city as possible, starting tomorrow.

Rei's original purpose was to foster Set and the Death Scythe, so being an adventurer wasn't a necessity. However, information could always be gathered in the guild and high rank requests for monster subjugation given. For Rei, quests gave useful information. However, even if high rank monster subjugation request appeared, as a G rank he couldn't receive it. Thinking about it, his current objective was to raise his rank by doing quests.

While thinking about such things, the forest along the highway that the receptionist had told him about came into view. Although it would take a normal adventurer several hours to come to this forest, it took Rei riding on Set only 10 minutes after leaving Gimuru. However, with a Griffon.....no, with Set, his mobility was clear.

「Set, do you see any monsters?」

「Guru~」

Set shook his head left and right while flying through the sky. From Rei's eyes, it was a wide forest and the state inside the forest was blocked by the trees.

「Though it is possible to launch a quick surprise attack from the sky.....I guess there's no other way. Set, land on the ground.」

「Gururu~!」

Giving a short cry in response to Rei, he gently adjusted his wings and gracefully landed on the ground in a way that expressed the elegance of his lion like lower half.

There seemed to have been some merchants and travelers near the landing point though,

Rei saw them sprinting towards Gimuru as he got off Set.

(.....Perhaps they would be told about the situation of the Griffon by Ranga when they reached the gate.)

As he smiled wryly, thinking about Ranga's increased workload, his focus immediately changed to searching the surroundings.

「I'm not sure what to do from here. Set, we'll enter the forest.」
「Guru~」

With Set raising a cry of agreement, they entered the forest directly.

Originally, Rei and Set were weaker when fighting in the narrow forest. However, as the other party in this case were Goblins, he judged that they didn't need to be too nervous as they entered the depths of the forest.

They had walked for about an hour after entering the forest. Set, who was walking in front of Rei, abruptly stopped.

「Gurururu~」

They watched the surroundings to be on guard. As expected, even though it was beside the highway, the trees with large trunks blocked the sunlight from coming in with their leaves and branches. The surroundings were dim even though it was day time. Although the surrounding temperature had increased considerably, Rei didn't feel it thanks to the Dragon Robe, for a normal adventurer, the heat and sweat would increase fatigue.

「Gururu~!」

In this situation, Set gave a cry, created a water ball and shot it at a grassy place covered with bushes.

And the next moment.

「Gyi~!」

An unpleasant scream was heard from the bushes, 20 Goblins revealed themselves nearby.

Legend Chapter 18

Legend Chapter 18

In response to the Goblin subjugation quest, they had entered the forest beside the highway for about an hour. A scream burst out from the bush that Set had fired a water ball into and 20 goblins appeared, surrounding Rei.

「Ambush.....no, would they lay an ambush so far into the forest? In that case, I probably ran into this group of Goblins by chance.」

Rei muttered while holding the Death Scythe. His eyes quickly observed the Goblins.

(2 rusted long swords and 3 similar daggers, the rest have clubs.The story was that Goblins with high intelligence could use weapons, but all the members have weapons. Though it's possible that only Goblins with high intelligence have gathered.....)

「Hah!」

A Goblin at the back hurled a stone in a preemptive strike. Pouring magic power into the Death Scythe, the stone was cut down in one strike. All the huge, 1m diameter trees in the area were also cut.

He didn't think that he would be able to cut tree trunks of that thickness. Though he was surprised when all the trees started falling, he immediately shouted to Set to take advantage of the situation to fight.

「Set, defeat the Goblins isolated by the trees!」

「Gururu~!」

The trees slowly fell, he gathered the thoughts in his mind as they fell towards the group of Goblins.

(In the end, its best if I find out if there is a rare species like they mentioned in the guild. I don't see it here, the leader probably realizes that there is a danger at the front lines.)

「Gyi~! Gyi~!」

「Gyi~!」

「Gigy~!」

The Goblins divided into two groups to evade the falling tree as they shouted something at each other. Rei confirmed the situation and set up the Death Scythe to his right. Set moved himself respectively to the left.

「Haah!」

As the trees suddenly fell down, the Goblins were thrown into confusion. Rei entered and wielded the large scythe with abandon. The magic blade cut sharply through the trees without any resistance. The goblins weren't able to block it. Rei's large scythe went through

the bodies, limbs and parts of the heads of the goblins without any resistance.

One strike. Most of the Goblins in the area died with one hit or were put in a state of near death.

Among the Goblins who had weapons, the one with the rusty long sword instinctively thrust out the weapon to block the large scythe. However, compared to the magic item battle axe that Vargas used, using the rusty sword to block the Death Scythe was like telling it to catch a huge waterfall with a small glass. The resistance was like no resistance, it smoothly cut through the long sword, arm and body, covering the ground in offal.

「Gyi~!」

The remaining Goblins divided by the tree, who saw more than half of their group killed in one attack, ran in all direction at full speed to try to escape.

Rei thought whether to chase for a moment, the request to subjugate Goblins had only asked for 5. It was better to take the killed Goblins as food for Set and the Death Scythe while there was time. Because of this, he judged that they wouldn't chase.

「Gururururu~!」

Set's cry could be heard from the other side of the tree. Rei judged that the other side had been cleaned up with no problems and moved over the big tree to Set.

What was left were the corpses of Goblins crushed by water balls, torn by sharp forefeet claws or bitten to pieces. In total, there were 4. It was two fewer than Rei, Rei had killed 6 with a single blow while Set had knocked down 4. If you think about the fleeing goblins, the fight was good.

「Guru~」

As Rei saw it when he approached, he praised Set and rubbed his head. A wry smile floated onto Rei's face, in contrast with the the Goblin corpses scattered around.

After patting him for a little while, he praised Set's results, turned around and began collecting the proof that the subjugation was completed.

By the way, in the case of Goblins, not many shops in the guild purchased their materials, because of that, he only stripped the right ears and magic stones.

「Set, keep watch of the surroundings while I recover the proof of subjugation and magic stones.」

「Guru~」

When Rei saw Set nod, he took the mithril knife from his waist.....then put it back and took a iron dagger out from the Misty Ring. It was an item he had taken from Vargas's companion.

(As expected, it's too much of a waist to use the mithril knife to cut up the Goblins. I obtained this with much effort, I might as well use this dirty and scratched knife.)

The right ear of a Goblin, which was the proof of subjugation, was chopped off with the knife, the chest was cut open and a magic stone the size of his little finger tip taken out from the heart.

(Aside from the Water Bear, I don't feel particularly troubled killing human like monsters. Though the fusion with Zepairu may have contributed, when I killed them.....I'm lucky I didn't feel hesitant or worried. Though I feel a little disgust at killing something human like, that was it. Maybe because this is Elgin and not Japan, in Rome do as the Romans do. In the first place, it's not good to be an adventurer if you have a feeling of not wanting to kill the target.)

While thinking like so in his mind, Rei cut off a right ear and dug out a magic stone one after the other.

By the way, though he collected the magic stones of the Goblins, as they were one of the weakest monsters, Rei judged that it was impossible for Set or the Death Scythe to gain a skill even if they absorbed the magic stones and put the stones into the Misty Ring without hesitation. The magic stone of goblins were sold for the super cheap price of one copper coin, still, it was considered better than nothing.

After finishing the dismantling of the four Goblins that Set knocked down, Rei turned his eyes to the Goblins weapons for a moment. However, the long sword and daggers were rusted and useless, he still couldn't repair them by himself. Though it might be possible to ask a blacksmith or weapon's shop, the repair cost would probably make it a deficit. When Rei judged determined that it would be deficit, he crushed the weapons with the Death Scythe's handle so that they couldn't be reused by the Goblins that ran away earlier.

By the way, although clubs were also scattered around, he left them as they were. Though he called it a club, they were just branches used as club substitutes, Rei judged that they could be made immediately just by taking branches from trees in the vicinity and left them alone.

「Well, next are the ones I defeated. Set, the tree.....no.」

As he was about to speak, he remembered what he tried in the Forest of Monsters. A tree that was knocked down then could be stored in the Misty Ring. In that case, this tree should also be able to be stored.

Though there was nothing particularly useful in storing the tree, Rei was optimistic about it and thought that it would come in handy.

「Alright. Now the object obstructing the way has been temporarily removed. Set, continue to keep watch.」

「Guru~」

Because the fallen tree had disappeared, there was now space to move about. Leaving the watch to Set, Rei began dismantling the Goblins that he had killed. The Goblins were in a different state compared with Set's because he had cut them with the Death Scythe, torsos, hands, feet and heads were everywhere with offal and blood on the ground, flesh was scattered around. In such a state, Rei looked for heads to cut the right ears off, the magic stones were also taken from the hearts. By accident, as Rei reached out to the other corpses, he felt a gaze. It seemed that something was quietly observing them.

「Guru~」

Set was wary of the surroundings and was restless and looked sharply around.

(There's an uncomfortable feeling, but I can't pin down the position.Is it the rare species I heard in the guild? What is its aim? Is it safely waiting for us to leave? Or is it waiting to attack us by surprise when we finish dismantling and are not on guard? I would like the magic stone of that monster if it can hide that not even Set can find it. I should be able to lure it out.)

As Rei cut off the right ear of the last Goblin, he made up his mind to wait for a chance to defeat the monster. As he went to take out the magic stone from the heart.....Set abruptly kicked the ground and flew next to him.

The next moment, something red hit the Goblin corpses that Rei was dealing with a few seconds ago and fire spread out.

「Tch, flame magic in the forest? I can't do anything about that. Set!」

「Gururu~!」

With a cry, Set quickly made a water ball. The flames that were coming from the Goblin corpse were successfully extinguished before they could spread to the surrounding vegetation.

While confirming that, Rei quickly looked at the surrounding area, he felt something from the tree above and raised up the Death Scythe by reflex.

Gyin~! A sharp sound was made as the Death Scythe came in contact with a long sword above Rei's head, it cut sword in half when they collided.

「Hah!」

He struck out with the Death Scythe without looking. The thing he attacked pushed out a shield to block it, it was split in two like the long sword.

Still, by sacrificing the shield, it escaped the blow from the Death Scythe, using the force from the blow, it landed a distance away from Rei and Set.

Landing there, Rei could finally see the other party before him.

It had a partially broken long sword and a small shield that had been split in two. However, different from a normal Goblin was its skin colour. While a normal Goblin had green skin, the Goblin in front of Rei had red skin. In addition, it was larger and a head taller than a normal goblin.

「I see, a rare species. I can say that it's strange.」

A smile floated onto Rei's face when he saw the clear differences in appearance compared with a normal Goblin. Maybe it took it as a sign of contempt, it threw away the shield that had been cut in two and held the long sword that was missing half the blade.....

「Gyi~!」

Right after it gave a cry, a ball of fire appeared in front of its eyes.

(It's similar to Set's water ball. In that case, should I call it fireball? With the sword, the Goblin looks like a soldier, it also looks like it can use beginner class attack magic. Should I call it a mage knight? However, there's no meaning if the magic isn't fired!)

He kicked the ground and tried to quickly hit and kill the rare species before it could shoot the fireball. He cut through the fireball to the Goblin while maintaining magic power in the Death Scythe.

「Gyi!?!」

The fireball was cut by the blade of the large scythe and dispersed. He also gave a shallow cut into the chest of the Goblin.

It got anxious when he saw its own fireball disappear and hurled the remains of the long sword at Rei.

In a sense, the haste of the Goblin was natural, was its magic cut through by other magic? Though it wasn't impossible for a weapon to cut through magic, it was the first time the Goblin had seen a magic item that could hold magic power.

「It can certainly use magic, its ability lives up to its name of a rare species. However, your biggest advantage was to hide your presence. Because you missed the killing blow, now you are the one hunted.....ha!」

The first swing of the Death Scythe was downwards on purpose.....evading it, the Goblin was relieved for a moment.

「Gyi~!」

While screaming, the Goblin tried to stand up, the Goblin's biggest mistake was to focus all his awareness on Rei. A sure kill strike came from the sky. But it was no wonder, without allies, he couldn't cast fire magic without being interrupted.

Nevertheless, it was a fatal mistake to only concentrate on Rei.

Tricked by the handle of the Death Scythe below, Set crept up and knocked the Goblin on its backwith the sharp claws of an eagle, he pinned its neck with the unmatched strength of a lion.

「Gyi~!」

Although Set was taking on a rare species, a Goblin was still only a Goblin. Even if you look in the Adventurers Guild, there is a huge difference between F rank and A rank. After all, the rare species is still only one rank higher than the normal E rank Goblins. To the end, the Goblin didn't realize the difference in status, a cracking sound was heard as the bones in its neck were crushed, the life in it was extinguished.

「Set, you've done well.」

「Gururu~」

After pampering Set by patting his head, the magic stone was pulled out from the Goblin's heart. The magic stone was larger than the ones from the other Goblins, which were only the size of his finger tip.

Although Rei hesitated over whether to let Set or the Death Scythe absorb the magic stone, he judged that it was inconvenient for Set to only have Water Ball as a ranged skill and gave it to him.

「Set.」

「Guru~」

The magic stone in his palm was sucked up by the beak and swallowed in a single gulp.

And.....

【Set has mastered『Fire Breath Lv.1』】

The announcement message that he had heard before echoed in his head.

「.....It was the magic stone of the Goblin that knew fire ball, so why fire breath?」

Rei muttered while spitting out a sigh.

【Set】

『Water Ball Lv.1』『Fire Breath Lv.1』new

【Death Scythe】

Legend Chapter 19

Legend Chapter 19

The corpse of the red skinned Goblin lay in front of Rei and Set's eyes. It was a rare species of Goblin. Because Set killed it in a single blow by breaking it's neck, you could hardly see any injuries on it. In front of the corpse, Rei was thinking as he patted Set.

(A rare species. In other words it appears rarely. There basically isn't much material to strip off a Goblin, but what if it's a rare species? There may be usable parts. Fortunately, if I store it in the Misty Ring, time doesn't flow and it won't rot, I'll store it in there for now. I'll check if it can be used by listening around at the Adventurers Guild or searching at the library.)

Arriving at a conclusion, he touched the corpse to store it into the Misty Ring.

(Also, the right ear proof of subjugation, I'd better not submit it. If it gets known that I defeated a Goblin rare species I'll be asked about the magic stone. Though I could make a temporary excuse and say the magic stone was destroyed when I defeated it, if the same excuse keeps getting used, it will become suspicious. In that case, I think it would be better if I just didn't say I fought a rare species.)

「Guru~?」

As Rei was lost in thought, he looked at the surroundings while patting Set's head.

The purpose of the request was to subjugate a minimum of 5 Goblins. Although he didn't cut off the right ear of the rare species as proof of subjugation, the request had already been completed as he had secured 9 ears.

「And there's still time left.」

He muttered as he looked at the sky, dimmed by the trees. The battle with the Goblins had taken a few minutes, the battle with the rare species had also taken a few minutes, Rei judged that there was still time before noon.

Though, for the time being, Rei had payed the inn for lunch, it was naturally only Rei's share. Also, the amount of food was insufficient for Rei. Although he had a small body, it didn't have a good energy efficiency.

「In that case, it's necessary for me to hunt monsters for Set and my meals.」
「Gururu~」

Rei's mutter might have been heard. That's right, Set seemed to say as he gave a small cry.

「Right, then let's search for monsters.」
「Gururu~!」

「.....Can't find anything.」

「Guru~」

To Rei's words, Set gave a small, sad cry.

Though they had hunted for prey for about an hour after defeating the Goblin rare species, they had found nothing at all.

However, in a sense, that was natural. This forest was a forest next to the highway to Gimuru, the guild regularly sent out subjugation quests to kill monsters so as to not hurt the travelers and merchants that pass through. The Goblins that Rei and Set defeated should originally have been defeated by those quests. However, the Goblins got a rare species leader and took shelter in the depths of the forest. According to the instructions of the leader, they concealed themselves attacked people passing through the highway before escaping.

(Come to think of it, I heard a story in the guild where a group of merchants and travelers were attacked.....but isn't it a bit strange that there was a rusty long sword? From the guild, only the rare species had a proper sword.Were they able to steal weapons? Did they gather them somewhere and keep them or did they take weapons from the baggage?)

Though Rei thought about it in his mind, he had no intention of looking for Goblin treasure as he had no money troubles.

As for Rei and Set right now, they would rather find a monster to eat than to find a silver coin.

Maybe their wish was heard, Set went in front of Rei, stopped and looked at the surroundings.

「Guru~」

From that appearance, Rei judged that it was a monster, set up the Death Scythe to attack and waited for it.

And the next moment.

「-!？」

Something small flew sharply out from the bushes nearby.

Rei reflexively cut at the flying object with the Death Scythe. The object that was cut flew through the sky and slammed into a tree trunk with a bichari~ sound.

Rei looked at the tree trunk in an instant to see what it was that attacked him, there was a long strip of flesh with a dark red colour.

「It is a kind of snake？」

Rei gave a small mutter, his doubt was settled by the existence that sprung out of a bush the

next moment. A huge frog, up to Rei's knees, appeared. It's skin was covered in a dark red viscous liquid similar to the tongue Rei had cut, it looked at Rei and Set with an emotionless gaze.

(A frog in this forest.....there was a F rank subjugation quest for Poison Frogs.....is it this fellow?)

Rei didn't sense it as he muttered in his mind, the next moment, the frog kicked against the ground and used its jumping ability to silently attack Rei.

But.....

「Fool.」

Even if you said that the frog had a special jumping ability, it was still only a F rank monster. Rei calmly read the enemy's attack path and moved the Death Scythe into the path, adding a little bit of magic power.

「Gero~!？」

Once it jumped into the air, the Poison Frog couldn't change its trajectory. One strike and it landed in two halves. The upper half and lower half were split by the impact as they fell to the ground.

「Gururu~!」

Set barked sharply and tried to eat the corpse.....

「Set!」

Set's movement was stopped by the stationary Rei.

「Guru~?」

Why? Set seemed to say as Rei took out the book Dismantling Monsters for Beginners that he had bought yesterday from the Misty Ring.

「Perhaps this is the Poison Frog, in other words, it probably has poison like its name says. You should be calm, it's not good to eat the meat of a monster that has poison.」

「Guru~.....」

Though he accepted Rei's explanation, Set still looked at the Poison Frog regretfully.

The skin was covered in a dark red liquid, it was obviously poison. It seemed to be a strong one as well. Asking Set to watch the surroundings, he looked up the poison toad in the book.

(The material that can be taken are the tongue, a poison sac in the body and the two hind legs. But.....)

He turned his eyes to the ground while comparing it to the book. The tongue had been cut by the Death Scythe, the corpse of the Poison Frog was also split in 2. About the tongue, it wasn't cut at the base since it hadn't fully extended, however, it was still possible for Rei to collect it. The hind legs were good as they were completely untouched. However, the most valuable part, the poison sac, had been torn in two, it was impossible to collect. The poison from the torn sac had already overflowed into the internal organs of the Poison Frog.

「The tongue can be recovered later, first is the magic stone.」

Muttering, he took out the magic stone from the heart using the iron dagger, taking care not to touch the poison that had leaked out. It was somewhat larger than the ones from the normal Goblins. Similarly, he cut off the two rear legs.

To be accurate, it should be noted that the purchasing of the rear legs was for food rather than materials. The poison is removed by butchers who deal with monster meat and sold over the counter. It is possible to sell it at a surprisingly high price as it is an expensive ingredient.

Although it was impossible to strip the poison sac, it could be used by pharmacists to create an antidote for the monster's poison. The tongue is generally used as part of a bow.

Storing the magic stone and rear legs in the Misty Ring, he recovered the tongue that had fallen to the base of the tree.

In addition, the proof of subjugation was the webbed right fore foot. However, seeing the venom rotting it, Rei furrowed his eyes and gave up.

「So, the remaining corpse.....what to do with it.」

In the case of the corpses of the Goblins they fought before, they could keep it as food as there was no poison. However, it was a Poison Toad that was in front of Rei. That is, it's the corpse of a poisonous toad. Moreover, the poison sac had been torn and the poison spilled.

「I wonder if I should burn it just in case but.....」

「Guru~」

To Rei's muttering, Set gave a small cry against it.

Set was worried about poisonous smoke if they burned it. Rei understood somehow and nodded while stroking Set's back.

「That's right, there will be more damage if I burn it. Should we leave it as it is? Well, I've stripped the material off, let's hope the next monster is delicious.」

「Guru~!」

Set gave a short cry and continued to walk through the forest.

While walking through, Set discovered a fruit from a tree, pecked at it and found it was

tasty. They advanced through the forest while being cautious about the quest.

「Here.....」

After advancing through the forest for a while after killing the Poison Toad, they abruptly came to a clearing.

There was a large lake in the space that spread before Rei and Set's eyes, it seemed to be used as a watering hole by monsters and beasts. As for evidence, there was beast that resembled a Fanged Boar at the edge of the lake.

「Guru~」

Set pressed his face against Rei as if pleading for something. Rei understood what Set wanted to say to him. He likely wanted to kill the boar for his meal.

While scratching his head, Rei examined the boar's appearance.

The wild boar had huge tusks growing from its mouth, with it's sturdy build, it was probably heavier than Rei. Such a wild boar had its mouth to the water's surface and was hungrily drinking water from the lake.

(It hasn't noticed us yet because we're about 100m away. In other words, the conditions are set for a surprise attack. A wild boar with tusks.....perhaps its the Fanged Boar that I ate in the stew at the Dusk Wheat?)

「Guru~」

Rei nodded at Set, who wanted to rush in early, and whispered to him.

「Ready Set? I'll draw the Fang Boar's attention with fire magic, you take the chance to attack it from the sky.」

「Guru~!」

Leave it to me, Set seemed to say as he gave a small cry and moved away from Rei. He determined that he wouldn't be found by the Fang Boar if he flew into the sky.

While watching Set move away, Rei considered what kind of magic to use.

(The first objective is to not let the Fang Boar escape. In other words, it's necessary to stop it from moving. In that case.....I see, it's easiest to cover the area in flames.)

Rei watched Set flap his wings and rise up to the sky in the distance and raised his magic power and started an incantation.

『Flame, form a burning wall that scorches all that touches it with fire.』

According to the incantation Rei spoke, magic power was emitted, a crimson line drew a circle centering around the Fang Boar.

The crimson line was even drawn on the surface of the lake that would normally put fires out. The moment the Fang Boar noticed, it kicked the ground in an attempt to escape.

『Ultra Flame Wall』

TLN: No joke, that's what he called it.

As Rei completed the incantation, flames raced across the lines that lay on the ground, it formed a wall that divided the Fang Boar from the world outside.

「Bururururu!」

The Fang Boar saw the huge wall of flames appear in front of its eyes and stopped its dash. The cry that leaked from its mouth sounded closer to a horse than a wild boar.

「Burururu」

Though the Fang Boar was running about in confusion in front of the wall of flame, the temperature of the flame was enough to lightly burn the fur on its skin every time it went near. With this, it kept trying to approach before retreating.

How much damage would it receive if it tried breaking through the wall of flame in front of its eyes.....no, because it was a wild animal, it likely understood by instinct. However, its hesitation was the Fang Boar's greatest mistake. If it had broken through the wall of flame at this time, it would receive considerable damage from burns, still, there would be the possibility of surviving. However, by hesitating, the existence leading to its death came from the sky.

「Gurururururu~!」

Set swooped from the sky while raising a cry. By the time the Fang Boar noticed his presence, it was already too late. The next moment, the forefeet of the Griffon swung down and slashed off the head.

「Gururu~!」

While raising a cry of victory, Set started pecking at the raw meat. The Fang Boar was over 100kg but it slowly went into Set's stomach.

Rei canceled the flame wall while smiling wryly at the scene.

Afterwards, they ate lunch while watching the scenery of the lake. Although Rei felt something was lacking, he waited for Set to slowly finish his meal.

「Right ear proofs of subjugation, there are 9. I would like them to be confirmed.」

In the guild in the city of Gimuru, the right ears of the Goblins were taken from the Misty Ring and handed to the receptionist.

As the request for the day had been completed, after Set was satisfied with eating the Fang Boar, they decided to return to the city.

「Ah, yes. Um, because 1 ear is 3 copper coins, it comes to a total of 2 silver and 7 copper coins. So, how was your first quest?」

He shook his head at those words as the receptionist passed the reward.

「There were Goblins but I didn't see a rare species. Perhaps that fellow is good at hiding itself.」

「Really.....I understand. Please mark the area here.」

「I say, I didn't actually see it though. It's only going to be my guess?」

「Yes. But it's still the opinion of a person who was on site.」

「.....Even if I was on site, today is the first time I've acted as an adventurer.」

「I won't believe that a person who is followed by a Griffon is a normal G rank. Other than that, thank you for your work today.」

Nodding to the receptionist who bowed her head, Rei's first day as an adventurer was finished.

In addition, because tongue of the Poison Toad had been cut in the middle, he only got 5 copper coins for it. 2 silver coins were given for both rear legs while the Goblin magic stones were sold for 9 copper coins.

Legend Chapter 20

Legend Chapter 20

It was night time on the same day Rei and Set returned to the city of Gimuru.

The center of the city of Gimuru. There was a mansion there.....although it was too large to be called that, the building was too small to be called a castle.

When Gimuru was still a frontier town, it was built for the case of a siege if there was an emergency, it was a building that gave a rugged impression.

The master of the building was Margrave Rowlocks, who ruled the streets of Gimuru.

The area Margrave Rowlocks governed was not just the city of Gimuru but the area around it. However, Gimuru was the only city that existed in the area.

Naturally, the actions taken by the successive generations of margraves that ruled Gimuru, up to Margrave Rowlocks, were to make the region prosper. However.....that is, they were forced to give up building new villages due to the presence of monsters.

When night comes, the monsters outside the city run rampant around the highways. There are no carpenters willing to build houses under that situation. It wasn't possible for a person to build a house during the daytime and return to Gimuru for the night as the next morning, the house would be destroyed.

Although someone had tried to make an outer wall first to prevent that, it wasn't possible to build it in a day. The next morning, the partially constructed outer wall had been destroyed overnight.

Originally, the city of Gimuru was set up as a frontier base for the Mireana kingdom. As for how the city was built with monsters appearing every night, it was done with pure manpower by defeating all the monsters that came out. In order to do that, around half the military force of the Mireana kingdom was gathered here until the city of Gimuru was completed, that was the scale of it.

At any rate, the lord of Gimuru unintentionally looked up to the ceiling after he saw the details of the report that had been submitted to his office.

Taking a break from his work, he took a sip of wine and took a deep breath.

After that, he looked at his face in the mirror that was in the room.

The face of a middle-aged man in his forties was reflected on the mirror. If anything, he gave the impression of a hard man. Adding to that, his mustache strengthened the impression.

After that, he took another deep breath and returned to his desk to look at the document he had seen earlier.

What was written was that one man had entered the city of Gimuru. The city of Gimuru was the only city in Margrave Rowlocks' territory. Because of this, its size was large and there were a lot of people as well. Normally, information about a stranger entering a city would not go to Margrave Rowlocks, who was a feudal lord. Well, if the person was a violent criminal or the heir of a large aristocracy of the Imperial City, it would be a different matter.

However, the contents in the report to Margrave Rowlocks was something that equaled that.

「.....A man accompanied by a rank A monster, Griffon, is it?」

After reading it, he reread it again and again. However, what was written therein did not change as he reread it.

「This is neither a dream nor an illusion. Should I be pleased or depressed about this?」

A man accompanied by a rank A monster. The report even read that he was an aspiring adventurer. If the contents were true, the city had just obtained a tremendous combat force.

Unnatural monster movement had been seen recently, purely thinking of it as a boost to the combat force could be considered divine grace.

「But, the timing is too good.」

The Margrave muttered as he looked at the documents.....no, glared at them.

Margrave Rowlocks gave a deep sigh and rang a bell that was nearby. A knocking sound immediately echoed into the room.

「Come in.」

「Excuse me. Margrave, did you call?」

Entering the room while saying so was a man in his twenties. The man was a subordinate of Margrave Rowlocks and acted as his secretary.

「Ah. Did you say Ranga was the garrison guard captain? Call him in. I want to hear the story of the submitted report.」

「I understand. At once.」

Seeing his instructions heard, he looked over the report again as the back of his subordinate quickly left the room after saluting.

「Abnormal monster behavior. There have been several rare species confirmed in this time. Will he become the seed of a disturbance or will he be an important help?I hope it's the latter.」

As Margrave Rowlocks muttered, the sound of knocking on the door was heard again.

「Come in.」

「Hah, I'm Ranga, guard captain of the garrison. I heard I was called.」

When he observed Ranga, he saw a intimidating beard and a tough looking face. As he opened his mouth to speak, a smile involuntarily floated onto his face as he saw the figure, similar to his own.

「Umm. I called for you about the matter of the report you submitted.」

「Yes.」

「The report says that a person who tamed a rank A monster, Griffon, has entered the town.」

「That is right.」

「.....What kind of person was he? Speak from your impression.」

To the words of Margrave Rowlocks, the figure of Rei, who had appeared during the day, floated into Ranga's mind. Because his appearance gave a strong impression, he was able to remember without much difficulty.

「First of all, with respect to his appearance, his height was only up to my chest.」

「That is.....rather small.」

Concerning the aspiring adventurer who had brought the Griffon, Margrave Rowlocks had imagined him to be a big man, however it was quite different from his expectations. He nodded his head.

「As for his face, his main features, if anything, were his blue eyes and red hair. His body was wrapped in a robe that seemed to be some sort of magic item, he also had a scythe taller than him as a weapon. In addition, it has been confirmed that he has a item box type magic item.」

「.....Really?」

He gave a doubtful look as thought about it to make sure.

Ranga caught the glance and nodded his head.

「Yes. There is no doubt.」

「What, he'll stand out like crazy.」

Small physique. A robe that is probably a magic item. A scythe taller than him. An item box magic item that is rare in this world. And a Griffon. When he associated those images in his head, it left an impression that stood out from every aspect. Although Margrave Rowlocks thought of the possibility of a spy from another country, such a person wouldn't be wearing such noticeable clothing.

「What did he do after entering the town?」

「According to the report, he went directly to the Adventurers Guild. After registering with the guild, he seems to have had a dispute with some D rank adventurers.」

Quarreling with adventurers. Hearing that, the Margrave's cheeks twitched.

「In other words, is the boy's purpose to crush the adventurers in the city of Gimuru?」

「No, according to the information I received, the adventurers seemed to have picked the fight.」

Hearing those words, he instinctively let out a sigh of relief. The existence of adventurers in the city of Gimuru was their lifeline, both as a combat force and as the economy. If the adventurers were swept from the city of Gimuru for some reason, the city of Gimuru would perish in the near future. The words of Ranga were sufficient judgement for him to exhale in relief.

「When I hear about the boy's appearance, there doesn't seem to be a feeling of acting to stand out.」

「Yes, I also think so.」

「So, is there a possibility of being a spy or agent from another country?」

「Yes there is. However, I think the possibility is highly unlikely.」

「On what basis?」

「The boy seems to lack common sense, he didn't even know he needed tax to enter the city. And above all, he didn't have any gold, silver or copper coins.」

At that explanation, Margrave Rowlocks knit his eyebrows involuntarily. However, it wasn't due to the sense of crisis earlier.

「He doesn't know common sense, and he doesn't have any money either?Where has he lived until now?」

Even if there isn't much, money has spread out enough through the central continent. It is strange to come to the city without a single copper coin no matter how you think of it.

「According to the person, he seems to have lived with his magic teach in the mountains for a long time.....」

「But?」

「That is, he used the word magic (Majutsu), not magic (Maho).」

「.....What?」

Magic (Majutsu) and magic (Maho). They were both words that represent the same thing, but the word magic (Majutsu) was long obsolete. In the first place, most of the people now don't even know the word magic (Majutsu) now.

「How far into the mountains was it?」

While muttering, Margrave Rowlocks had almost excluded the possibility of Rei being a spy or agent from another country.

「That is, the person apparently doesn't know where he was. However, because his magic training has roughly finished, he was thrown out with space magic into the Forest of Monsters to train to become an adventurer or something.」

「Forest of Monsters.」

Margrave Rowlocks gave a low groan. It's a forest about 10 days walk from the town. If you talk about low rank monsters, you think of the slime or maybe wild beasts which aren't even monsters. If you look at the highest ranks such as dragons, they inhabit the Forest of Monsters. The Forest of Monsters.

「Yes. He seems to have killed a Water Bear and some Djarums, the fur was sold to pay for the tax.」

「Defeating a Water Bear which is rank C. Well, it's not so strange a story since he is followed by a Griffon.」

Water Bears are rank C and the Djarum is a monster of rank F. However, if the Djarums are in a flock, the rank of each monster jumps to rank D.

「For the time being, after hearing your story, I judge that there is little possibility of the person being from another country.」

「Yes, I think so myself. Certainly, as a combat force it is quite considerable, but they stand out making it hard for them to sneak about. In that case, they could be a decoy.....」

As he thought aloud, he shook his head as he noticed something.

「To begin with, there's no point in making a person who can control a Griffon a decoy. They're more likely to use him for something else.」

Margrave Rowlocks nodded at Ranga's words.

「Ah. I also think so. However, it is also true that there isn't no possibility. About the boy, Rei did you say? Keep an eye on him」

「Watch him, is that an order?」

「No, there is no point in giving an order to watch him. I mean to take care of him. At any rate, after hearing your story about his combat power, he seems to be weak in communicating as he only lived with his teacher. It's difficult to tame a Griffon, I don't want to lose a precious talented person because of some worthless incident. Be careful with the groups of nobles in particular. If they come into connect, inform me and I'll deal with it.」

「I understand.」

Aristocratic faction. They are a faction centered around the large aristocracy. In the current Mireana kingdom, the King's faction, the aristocratic faction and the third neutral faction are in a power struggle. Well, the support ratio was about 6:3:1. Margrave Rowlocks belonging to the minority neutral faction.

However, it was also true that the aristocratic faction frequently meddled with them because their power was small. If they tried to meddle with the boy, Rei, who was accompanied by a rank A monster, Griffon.....Margrave Rowlocks had a sour expression as he thought of the possible following events.

The next day, when Rei was in the city of Gimuru, a party was fighting a battle against a

monster a few hours distance from the city.

「Damn!」

A big man swung down a giant axe while swearing from his mouth.

「Gigi!」

An ant about 1m in length had its head cut as the axe swung down, it continued moving after raising its death cries.

「Vargas! Don't be careless!」

A man with a long sword and shield called out to his leader and used his shield to block the ant that lost its head from ramming Vargas. Finally, the battle came to an end as the man quickly cut off the leg of the ant that had lost its head.

「Oi, Vargas! You're always being too reckless!」

The man with the long sword and shield, Zorito, yelled at Vargas.

「I know! But I what I want to know is why we have such small fry as our opponents!」

The axe was swung down in irritation. The axe that swung down gouged into the earth, scattering sand and stone into the surroundings.

「Calm down. Don't forget we have a debt to pay. If we make a mistake and don't pay it back, we'll be wanted men.」

The voice of a man with daggers clicked his tongue in frustration.

Debt. The D rank adventurer group, Claws of the Hawk, was currently in debt.

It all started when they were celebrating after conquering a level of a labyrinth that was filled with magic traps.

Vargas, who was originally uncouth and rude, picked a fight with person who had just come to the Adventurers Guild to register. However, the person they picked a fight with the wrong person. After exchanging verbal insults and betting their money in front of the guild, they had been splendidly defeated. Their weapons and money had all been taken and they were left with fractured bones.

Especially for Vargas, adding insult to injury, the magic item battle axe that he had just found in the labyrinth was taken away.

And, although it was necessary to ask a magician from the medical house, who could use recovery magic, to heal them as they were hurt, all the cash the Claws of the Hawk had was taken by Rei, let alone the cost of treatment, they didn't even have enough money for meals that day.

But, the Claws of the Hawk were a D rank adventurer party. In other words, they had a decent credibility and track record. Thanks to their credibility and track record, they were able to borrow money to cover the costs of treatment and living from the guild. And naturally, the borrowed money had to be returned, because of that, they had undertaken a subjugation request for Soldier Ants.

It should be noted that the debt was purely medical and living expenses, though the weapons they used had been lost to Rei, they had spare weapons they could use.

Because money was borrowed from the guild, it wasn't possible to avoid paying it. Because the guild can contact all other branches around the world using a magic item, it would quickly be spread if such a thing happened. There would be bounty hunters aiming for them.Though in that case, the bounty for capture would be small, still, everyone in the Claws of the Hawk didn't want this to happen and desperately handled requests.

「Who's the Goblin Drool?!」

Vargas yelled while denying the dishonourable party name given by Rei.

Legend Chapter 21

Legend Chapter 21

The day after completing the Goblin subjugation request, the figures of Set and Rei could be seen on the highway. However, instead of flying on the ground like before, they were walking normally on the highway.

Actually, Rei wanted to fly through the sky to get around, however, he was asked by Ranga to stop landing near the city or on highways. It seemed to be an appeal from travelers and merchants that had fled scared when Set landed on the highway yesterday.

Rei didn't fly near the town and decided to give Ranga some face and didn't land on the highway either when he took his next quest.

TLN: The concept of face isn't unique to the Chinese, it is rarer in Japanese stories though due to the story settings. Drop a question if you don't know what it means.

「Well, the request this time is to subjugate Soldier Ants.....」

He recalled the contents of the request that had been posted in the guild.

In the past few days, near the city – that is to say within a few hours walking distance – the appearance of Soldier Ants had become more frequent.

For the subjugation request of the Soldier Ants, the proof of subjugation was the dagger like protrusion that grew on their backs. The reward for each part was 5 copper coins, about double that of the goblins.

According to the story Rei heard from the lady at the reception, there was probably a nest with a Queen Ant near the city of Gimuru and that the so called Queen Ant might appear. However, while Soldier Ants are rank F, the Queen Ant is a rank C, because of this, it was best to not mess with it if it was found.

(Rank C, the Water Bear was also rank C when I found out later. Then if I let Set or the Death Scythe absorb the magic stone, acquiring a skill is certain. In that case, I'll aim for it.)

While thinking this in his mind, he advanced along the highway with Set while looking for Soldier Ants.

Why didn't they fly? Though Set gave a cry as if asking, Rei stroked his back to soothe him as they proceeded along the highway.

It should be noted, though they occasionally met passersby, as soon as they saw Set and Rei, they would pass by before running at full speed towards Gimuru.

「Gururururu~!」

They had walked along the highway for about an hour. Although Rei was distracted by the

scenery around them, he switched to his combat state after hearing Set growl ahead of him.

Holding the Death Scythe, he confirmed something with a black appearance coming from the bushes surrounding the roadside.

「They came!」

They were some sort of black ant, that is, they were the Soldier Ants that needed to be subjugated. They also seemed to have found Rei. With threatening mandibles like a huge pair of scissors, they made gachi~ gachi~ sounds as if to intimidate him.

「Gigigigigi!」

Aside from its cry and size, they looked like a normal ant. If there was one difference, it would be the dagger-like protrusion that grew on their backs.

「Gigi!」

A Soldier Ant ran towards them while raising a short cry. Though it went straight for Rei, trying to bite and tear him apart with its sharp mandibles, its speed wasn't particularly fast. It was a less formidable enemy than the goblin rare that Rei fought yesterday by a great extent.

「Fu~!」

The Soldier Ant that had opened its mandibles to bite Rei was cut in half by the magic empowered Death Scythe.

Although Soldier Ants can still act if one of their legs are lost, it doesn't seem to be possible if its body is cut in half, its legs didn't twitch for long before its movements stopped.

「Gururu~!」

Although he took down one, from the bushes it came from, 1, 2, 3, 4 and more ants made their appearance.

Rei unintentionally clicked his tongue.

「Set, Fire Breath!」

「Gururu~!」

Set opened his mouth while giving a high cry in response to Rei's voice. Flames spewed from his mouth the next moment. It was the newly learned skill from the magic stone of yesterdays goblin rare, but because it was at a low level at Lvl. 1, the flame breath was small, its range was also limited to 2~3m.

Still, the flames seemed to succeed in dealing moderate damage to the Soldier Ants, even if it didn't kill them, their movements were still dulled.

Even though they had numbers, when the movements of the Soldier Ants dulled, they were no longer enemies to Rei, instead of monsters that had to be fought, they were reduced to mere prey.

「Haaa!」

Pouring magic power into the Death Scythe, he cut through the necks with the blade and split their bodies in half. Striking their body with the handle to knock them up, he split them in one strike.

An ant was blasted apart by Set's Water Ball as he spewed a concentrated Fire Breath at another ant, turning it into charcoal. His powerful beak pierced through the ant's body as he tore off its neck with his claws.

It was a few minutes after the fighting began. Over 30 Soldier Ants had been killed in a few minutes, body parts and fluids covered the ground.

「Gurururururu~!」

As Set raised a cry of victory, Rei was wary of more enemies coming. However, the bushes were still quiet after a few minutes passed.

「This seems to be the whole group.」

Rei finally spat out a sigh of relief after confirming that.

Asking Set to watch the surroundings, he went to retrieve the magic stones and proof of subjugation.

However, recovering the magic stone and projection from the Soldier Ant that was exhaustively burned wasn't possible as it had been turned to charcoal. It was also impossible to retrieve the magic stone and projection from the ant that had been blasted apart by the water ball.

(When an attack with too much power is used, it becomes impossible to collect the magic stone and proof of subjugation. I better take note of that from now on.)

While thinking of that, he took The Beginners Guide to Dismantling Monsters from the Misty Ring and opened to the section with Soldier Ants.

The materials listed in the book that could be stripped off the Soldier Ant were the antennas, which could be used for medicine, and the head and exoskeleton, which could be used as armour.

The antennas were easily cut off with a bronze knife, but the problem was the exoskeleton of the body.

Though the knife could cut through the gaps in the exoskeleton, it was considerably difficult

work for Rei. Though he managed to strip the exoskeleton off the Soldier Ant, it wasn't in good condition.

Still, after taking some time, he did succeed in removing the exoskeleton and storing it into the Misty Ring.

「With this, the minimum subjugation amount is complete. Now we just have to look for the Queen Ant.....」

Rei looked around while spitting out a sigh. The corpses of 30 Soldier Ants were scattered about. The amount seemed to be an advance force. The sigh was involuntary as he thought about the number of Soldier Ants he would have to contend with to aim at the Queen Ant.

The Soldier Ant itself wasn't a very strong opponent. No, there wouldn't be a problem if you just called it weak. This wasn't without grounds as he with Set had wiped out more than 30 Soldier Ants in a few minutes.

However, the problem was the amount of fatigue. They hardly felt any fatigue even after defeating 30 of them this time. But what about fighting the same amount several times, or tens of times, what if the battle was repeated dozens of times.

Certainly, for Set and Rei, their bodies were tougher than normal monsters and humans. However, this didn't mean they had infinite strength. It is natural for movement to dull if you are tired, and if your movement dull, you become more likely to be hit by an attack. Even if their bodies had eternal youth, they were not immortal.

Still, to miss out on the magic stone of the C rank Queen Ant was too regretful.

「Well, what to do.」

Thinking while thrusting the handle of the Death Scythe through the body of a Soldier Ant..... suddenly, he felt a sense of incongruity with the exoskeleton.

(What? Why do I feel something different when I look at this exoskeleton? This exoskeleton looks normal.....so, apart from size, the appearance and size are the same as the other ants. There's no mistake. However.....!?)

Muttering in his mind, he finally understood his sense of dissonance. An ant that leaves its nest will usually grow wings, a so called winged ant. However, there were no wings attached to the Soldier Ant that lay before his eyes.

(In other words, not all the ants in Elgin have the habit of becoming winged ants? Or did these ants not leave the nest to become winged ants.....there's a strong chance of being wrong either way.)

All the ants the Queen Ant controlled didn't have wings to fly.....that would be considered too optimistic. However, the few Soldier Ants Rei and Set defeated didn't have wings. In other words, the chance of success was higher if instead of going along the ground, Rei and

Set flew, mounting a surprise attack on the Queen Ant from the sky, Rei thought.

Whether or not it was fortunate, from the information obtained from the guild receptionist, if the Queen Ant is defeated, the swarm, which is lead by the Queen Ant would no longer be able to maintain itself and will scatter into the surrounding area. The number of times Soldier Ants will appear near the city of Gimuru would increase for a while, however, it would still be better than the swarm governed by the leading Queen Ant.

「.....Set」

「Guru~?」

While watching the surroundings, Set, who was pecking at the corpses of the Soldier Ants, curiously turned his head to face Rei.

「Try to search the Queen Ant from the sky. Launch a surprise attack from the sky to kill the Queen Ant.」

「Guru~!」

Nodding at Rei's proposal, Set crouched down. Rei vaulted onto Set's back while holding the Death Scythe.

「Gururu~!」

Raising a sharp cry, Set flapped his eagle like wings after a run up of a few steps. Rei's cheeks unintentionally loosened as they steadily ascended into the sky by kicking the air, a smile floated onto his face as he saw another group of Soldier Ants heading to the place they were at before, they had evaded a second battle.

「Though it would have taken some time for more to arrive after Set and I defeated the first group, we would have been stuck in a constant war of attrition. The correct decision was made early.」

「Guru~」

I agree, Set seemed to say as he gave a short cry. While patting his neck, a grassy plain a forest spread along the highway.....it wasn't easy to see deeply into the forest from the sky.

They had flown through the sky for about 20 minutes. Although they occasionally saw the figure of a monster passing through, the figure of the Queen Ant, which was their aim, could not be seen anywhere.

「Its not so easy to find after all.」

「Guru.....Guruu~!」

Set raised a cry as if to comfort Rei but changed into a sharp cry half way. It was a cry of precaution.

The reason he raised his voice was immediately found. The enemy appeared from the forest. Because there wasn't an object for comparison, it can't be said for sure, however,

they looked larger than the Soldier Ants. Moreover, they had wings growing from behind their necks. They flew through the sky, straight for Set. There were 5 in number.

「To fly through the sky, moreover, they're bigger than Soldier Ants. Imperial Ants, or should I call them Imperial Ants? Well, an enemy is an enemy. Let's go, Set!」 TLN: More word differences, the first Imperial Ant is written in Kanji while the second in Katakana.

「Gururururu~!」

Flapping his wings while raising a courageous cry, Set flew straight towards the Imperial Ants in a straight line without hesitation.

The distance between them decreased.....

「Gururururu~!」

A water ball appeared near Set's face and with Set's cry, was fired on the Imperial Ants.

「Gigigigi~!」

Though the Imperial Ant flying at the top avoided the attack by tilting its body at an angle, the Imperial Ant that flew behind it didn't fair so well. Hitting it in the face, the water ball exploded at the same time. Most of the upper body exploded with it and it fell to the ground.

「Four remaining.」

Muttering, Rei began to cast a spell.

『Flame, collect and gather. One for all. All for one. Appear at my command.』

After Rei finished casting the spell, a mass of flame 1m in size gathered at the tip of the Death Scythe Rei held. Facing the Imperial Ants, Rei swung the Death Scythe with all his strength. At the same time, the flame flew straight towards the enemy.

However, its speed was only half the speed of the water ball Set had fired first, it was lacking speed in all aspects.

In fact, the Imperial Ants scattered so as to avoid the flames.....

『Bloom Flames!』

Flames exploded at the same time Rei activated his magic. A large amount of flames the size of his fist scattered into the surroundings at high speeds.

「Gigigigigigi!」

It was a magic that Rei had made in the image of fireworks, however, the power of the flame after the explosion wasn't that high.

Still there was enough power to burn the wings of the Imperial Ants, with their wings burnt completely, two of them fell to the ground.

Falling from a height of over 30m, they would not survive.

And there were 2 Imperial Ants left. But.

「Gururu~!」

One had its body crushed by Set's claws.

「Haah!」

The other was split in half by the blade of the Death Scythe wielded by Rei.

「Right, the next step is to find the position of the Queen Ant.....」

When Rei said that, a huge cry came from the surroundings.

「Gigigigigigigigigiyi~!」

The main sounds were coming from near tree 30m ahead of Set. There was the figure of a giant ant monster bigger than the Soldier Ant and Imperial Ant.

In other words.

「Queen Ant」

「Gururu~!」

Set gave a sharp cry in agreement to Rei's words. Rei stroked Set's neck while smiling at his bravery.

「Right. Then.....lets go!」

「Gururururu~!」

Giving a high pitch cry in response to Rei's words, Set dived towards the Queen Ant on the ground.

Legend Chapter 22

Legend Chapter 22

「Haaah~!」

Set swooped down from the sky without any hesitation, Rei wielded the Death Scythe at the same time, pouring magic power into the Death Scythe while aiming at the large Queen Ant.

「Gigigigigigi!」

The Queen Ant opened its mouth, as if to shoot something.....

「-!? It's dangerous, Set!」

「Gururu~!」

Feeling a sense of crisis, Rei shouted to Set. Set understood and with a great flap of his wings, forcibly moved to the right.

The next moment, liquid was shot from the mouth of the Queen Ant, passing through the place Set was previously in a blink of an eye.

The liquid that was avoided fell to the ground, Rei saw the surrounding soil melting away while giving off smoke. The real nature of the liquid was an acid.....he judged that it was a kind of formic acid. TLN: Formic acid is a type of acid that ants can generate, typically not that powerful.

「Gigigigigi!」

Dissatisfied that its attack had missed, it raised a loud screech while attacking with its huge forelegs.

As Set escaped the blow, Rei wielded the Death Scythe against a foreleg as they passed through the sky.

Swinging the Death Scythe, it tore through the foreleg without any resistance, the foreleg flew off in a direction to the left with the momentum it had left from swinging down.

「Gyi~!」

Maybe it had developed a sense of pain unlike the Soldier Ants, the Queen Ant gave a short screech. Rei took advantage of this chance to jump from Set's back.

As soon as Rei landed on the ground, he jumped up at once, raising a sound and leaving a cloud of dust. At the same time, one of the Queen Ant's forelegs smashed the place Rei had landed.

He jumped continuously and took some distance from the Queen Ant. After doing that, Rei was finally able to observe the Queen Ant.

Its body length was much longer than the Soldier Ants, about 5m in length. It had an enlarged abdomen and a sharp spike grew from it like a stinger.

(.....It's pretty big. I was shocked for a moment.)

From the information Rei heard, the Soldier Ants were about 1m long. Because of that, even if it was larger, he had expected the Queen Ant to be about 3m in length. However, after coming in contact with the actual Queen Ant, its size was greatly larger than Rei's expectations.

「But, well.....」

Directing a sharp gaze at the Queen Ant, he readied the Death Scythe.

「I have no choice but to do it!」

With a shout, Rei started running towards the Queen Ant. From the sky, the figure of Set could be seen continuously shooting water balls, trying to support Rei.

「Gigigi!」

Finding it annoying, the Queen Ant swung one of its hind legs, destroying a water ball. However, Set's aim wasn't to damage the Queen Ant with the water balls. It was to give Rei a chance to get close with his physical ability and attack with the Death Scythe.

And that purpose was achieved.

『Flame, you are a snake. Therefore, burn my enemy as I desire.』

While chanting the incantation for spell that killed the Water Bear in the Forest of Magic, just like that time.....no, this time with the blade, he swung the Death Scythe.

With only light resistance, the blade of the scythe went into the middle right leg of the Queen Ant.....

『Dance Fire Snake!』

The magic was released. The fire snake crawled into the leg of the Queen Ant that the Death Scythe was stuck into.

「Gigigigigigigi!」

The giant ant in front of his eyes screeched in pain as its body was burned from the inside.

However, worthy of being called the Queen Ant, it wasn't the end. While screeching, it tore off the leg that the fire snake was moving around and burning.

「What!?!」

Excessive, Rei was startled by the action. He immediately jumped backwards to create some distance between the Queen Ant.

At almost the same time he moved.....the Queen Ant threw the leg, that the fire snake was burning, at his location.

「Gigigi!」

Angered, the Queen Ant spat formic acid from its mouth at the small man in front of it that had injured it. Brandishing its remaining legs, it looked for a chance to use its sharp mandibles.

Rei evaded most of the attacks or parried them with the Death Scythe.

「It's tenacious!」

While evading the foreleg swinging down, he struck out with the Death Scythe. Cutting the remaining left foreleg, the only legs left was the middle leg on the left, the left hind leg and the right hind leg, three legs. However, the Queen Ant's attacks were still fierce. The poisonous spike that grew from its abdomen pierced into a tree and it spat out formic acid, melting rocks.

While remembering the tenacity of a C rank monster with admiration, Rei brandished the Death Scythe to attract the Queen Ant's attention while confirming the figure of Set in the sky.

『Flame, burn the enemy according to my thoughts.』

While saying the incantation, a ball of fire about 30cm in diameter appeared in front of the blade of the Death Scythe. As Rei swung the Death Scythe.....he triggered the magic.

『Fireball!』

The ball of flame, similar to the water ball that Set used, flew off at high speed towards the Queen Ant as the Death Scythe swung down.

However, the Queen Ant evaded by dropping to the ground instead of receiving the attack directly. It knew the power of the magic flame after having its body burned by the magical fire snake.

.....But, it didn't know that that was Rei's aim.

It was lying on the ground. In other words, it was hard for it to make its next movement immediately. And Set, who was waiting in the sky for an opportunity to intervene, dived straight to ground. The Queen Ant watched out for Set at the beginning because of the threat of the water balls but then recognized Rei, who injured it, as the highest threat. So while fighting against Rei, the existence of Set had disappeared from its mind. Moreover, Set had waited for a chance without interfering as the fight between Rei and the Queen Ant

intensified. All this for a chance to hit the Queen Ant with a decisive blow. Set did not overlook the rare opportunity that Rei had made.

「Gururururu~!」

Raising a courageous cry, with his eagle like talons and matchless strength.....and with the speed from his dive, he swung them at the Queen Ants head.

A gusha~ sound echoed into the surroundings. The head of the Queen Ant was shattered and pieces of flesh were scattered into the surroundings.

「Gururururu~!」

Set raised a cry of victory. It wasn't a strange story. It normally isn't a mistake to determine that it was a victory after the enemy's head was crushed. However, Set had forgotten about what happened when they fought the Soldier Ants. With their vitality, they would keep moving for a little while even after their head was destroyed.

And the opponent that Rei and Set were fighting was a Queen Ant, a much more powerful existence than the Soldier Ant. Naturally, its vitality exceeded that of a Soldier Ant.

As if to show that, the Queen Ant that had lost half its legs and head raised one of its legs.

As Rei saw the scene in his eyes, he shouted at Set.....

「Set, dodge!」

The moment he shouted, he dashed towards Set while raising the Death Scythe.

「Gururu~!」

When Set heard Rei's shout, he reflexively kicked against the ground to flee to the sky. What was lucky this time was that the Queen Ant's attack was not swinging down but from the side. Set flew into the sky to evade the attack. The Queen Ant attacked with a single blow, sweeping from the side. It was only a single moment after Set's victory cry.

The sweeping attack was too slow and cut the air without even scratching Set.

The figure of Rei appeared in front of it.

「Die quietly!」

Hard and fast, the Death Scythe cut through the right hind leg and stinger of the Queen Ant.

「Haah!」

The left hind leg and other remaining leg were cut off by the returning blade. With the Queen Ant missing its head, 6 legs and stinger, all movements stopped for real.

「.....」

Because of what happened before, Rei readied the Death Scythe without lowering his vigilance for a few minutes after the Queen Ant stopped moving. At last, after confirming that it wasn't moving, the tension was finally released.

「Gururu~」

Set, who was flying in the sky, landed and gave a cry with a lowered head, he seemed to be reflecting letting his guard down and putting Rei into a difficult position.

Stroking his head, Rei shook his neck.

「Don't worry. Though being careless was bad, it hasn't been long since you were born. It's good as long as you don't make the same mistake.」

「Guru~」

「Because I was a bit further away, I noticed it. What about if the positions were reversed? At that time I'll need your help Set.」

「Gururu~!」

Leave it to me, Set gave a cry with confidence compared to earlier.

Rei went next to the Queen Ant holding the Death Scythe with a smile on his face.

「Well.....how to dismantle this.....」

As usual, he took out the Beginners Guide to Dismantling Monsters from the Misty Ring to examine it. However, although there were dismantling methods listed for the Soldier Ants and Imperial Ants, one for the Queen Ant was not listed.

「What to say, the ants with wings were really called Imperial Ants.」

Wasn't that too simple? Was what Rei thought, however he didn't say it out because the names of the magic he used was also simplistic.

「In that case, I'll put off dismantling it and put it into the Misty Ring.....should I keep the magic stone?」

Muttering, he first stored the stinger and legs that he had cut off with the Death Scythe before taking out an iron dagger from the Misty Ring. he thought about how to take the magic stone out.

After losing the legs, stinger and head, only the body was left. Though it was good, the body ended up falling down with softer belly touching the ground. He needed to cut part of the belly in order to retrieve the magic stone.

「Set, sorry but could you overturn the body so that the bottom is facing up?」

「Guru~」

At Rei's words, Set gave a short cry and turned over the body of the Queen Ant without much difficulty.

Seeing that, Rei was convinced that Set's raw physical strength was greater than the Queen Ant's. However, it would still be difficult for Set to win if he fought the Queen Ant. Why was that?

(It would purely be because of Set's lack of experience. It hasn't been a week since Set was born, but the Queen Ant has survived among wild animals in this world of Elgin. Same applies to me.)

Given their physical strength and potential, it was strange that it wasn't possible for Rei and Set to easily kill a C rank monster like the Queen Ant when you thought about things like magic power. But that was if you only considered the difference in performance. However, having thought about it, Set didn't have much experience as it had only been a week since he was born, as for Rei he only had combat experience after coming to Elgin, so his experience was at the same level as Set. Most aversion to killing had been removed by the fusion, however, the world wasn't kind enough to let him survive with just that.

(I have to learn.)

Thinking to himself, he swung the iron dagger at the abdomen of the Queen Ant.....

Kin~!

The blade was repelled.

「Its like this even though it's not completely covered by a exoskeleton?.....Well, it can't be helped.」

Returning the iron dagger into the Misty Ring, he pulled out the mithril knife. Pouring magic power into the blade, he inserted it into the abdomen. As expected of an item made from mithril, it went into the Queen Ant's belly without any resistance.

And Rei searched the inside of the Queen Ant.

「.....Hmm? Is there a heart?」

Originally, insects don't have an organ called a heart, instead its substituted by a dorsal vessel. Though Rei thought that he would have a hard time looking for the magic stone, it turned out that there was a small heart in the body of the Queen Ant.

「Well, it doesn't change the fact that the monster is an insect, I wonder if much is said about it?」

While wondering that, Rei took out a magic stone. The magic stone was the size of Rei's fist, it was almost the same size as the magic stone that they had got from the Water Bear in the Forest of Magic.

「It shouldn't be much different than the goblin's magic stone. The colour is yellow, in that case, is it an earth attribute?.....Well」

Rei picked up the Death Scythe that was put on the ground while holding the magic stone in one hand.

「Guru~?」

「Sorry Set. I plan to let the Death Scythe absorb the magic stone of the Queen Ant this time.」

「Guru~」

I don't mind, Set nodded. Smiling at that appearance, Rei poured magic power into the Death Scythe and threw the magic stone into the air.

There was no resistance as the magic stone was cut, the next second, the magic stone disappeared like smoke. This was a method to absorb the magic stone, similar to Set, the disappearance of the magic stone meant that it was absorbed.

【The Death Scythe has learnt the skill『Corrosion Lv.1』】

A message was announced in the same way as with Set.

The announcement seemed to occur whether Set or the Death Scythe absorbed the magic stone.

「Still, corrosion? Perhaps its from the influence of the formic acid, it's subtle though.」

Rei stored the body of the Queen Ant in the Misty Ring with a wry smile as he started walking towards the city of Gimuru.

It should be noted that Rei got off Set a short distance from the city entrance and walked back so that Ranga wouldn't complain.

The rewards of the day for the Soldier Ant's magic stones and materials was 7 silver coins, exceptional for a G rank adventurer.

【Set】

『Water Ball Lv.1』『Fire Breath Lv.1』

【Death Scythe】

『Corrosion Lv.1』new

Corrosion: Corrodes metal objects if they are cut several times. The number of cuts required decreases as level increases.

Legend Chapter 23

Legend Chapter 23

The Adventurers Guild in the city of Gimuru. The receptionist Lenora played around with her ponytail while she depressingly looked at the document her boss had passed her.

Although various complex sentences were written in the document, it could be summarized as follows.

- Keep an eye on the adventurer Rei.
- If the adventurer causes trouble with the aristocratic faction, report it to the boss immediately.
- Similarly, report to the boss immediately if the adventurer gets tangled up with other adventurers.

「Haa.....」

She involuntarily spat out a sigh while reading the documents.

Fortunately, as there was only a little while before the noon bell, there were few adventurers in the guild. There were only several people eating an early lunch.

「What's wrong, sighing like that?」

The co-worker next to Lenora asked curiously. It was Kenny, a cat beast person. She stretched herself, showing off the flexible limbs that were a feature of the cat family, Lenora felt some envy when she looked at her own small chest.

TLN: So Kenny is female. The name Kenny is usually male but was used as a female name about 500 years ago or so.

「Here, look at this.」

Diverting her gaze from Kenny's large chest, Lenora passed the documents.

Because it was before noon and there were no adventurers around, it was her free time. She looked at the documents without any hesitation.

「Umm, what?Wait, what is this?」

Although Kenny was reading the document with curiosity at first, her cheeks started to cramp as she kept reading.

「It's as you see.」

「Doesn't the guild maintain neutrality with disputes between adventurers? But if anything happens you have to report it immediately.」

「That's not all, look at the seal of approval at the end.」

Kenny turned her eyes to the seal of approval at the end of the document, she stopped

moving for a moment. She finally spoke after a few seconds.

「Wait, isn't this the seal of the guild master!」

「That's right.」

The seal of the guild master. That is, the instructions written in the document were ordered by the guild master.

「What did you do?」

「I haven't done anything in particular!」

To Kenny's doubtful look, Lenora retorted with a strong tone.

「But, if you haven't done anything, why did you personally receive orders from the guild master? I mean, what's your relationship with the adventurer Rei?」

「There aren't any special relations in particular.」

「In that case, why this instruction?」

「Perhaps because Rei is a human adventurer, I talked with him when he registered with the guild. When he completes requests, he brings them to me.」

「That's, isn't that Rei guy hitting on you?」

Lenora shook her neck slightly at Kenny's words.

However, what Kenny said wasn't wrong at all. After all, receptionists were the face of the guild. Naturally, the person who employs receptionists would choose beautiful women. As a result, the receptionists were idolized by the adventurers. An unattainable object, someone they want to be their lover, someone they wanted to spend the night with, they became that kind of existence.

Kenny was trying to say that in that sense, Rei was trying to chase Lenora. But with the contact Lenora had with Rei, she didn't feel that he was trying to woo her.

There were many times where the adventurer would come to visit the same receptionist. No, it could be said that it was a daily occurrence. Because there was a bar in the guild as well, there would be several people each year who would get drunk and call out to Lenora.More than that and they would be sent to the guild jail for interfering with guild business. However, they would still end up tearfully paying the fine for a decent amount for obstructing business the next day.

「He isn't. In the first place, the Rei written in the document is a child. You know, the one that got in trouble with the Claws of the Hawk.」

Kenny easily knew who Rei was from Lenora's plain words. It wasn't uncommon for bad adventurers to mess up those who came for guild registration. However, it usually ends up with the other party sucking up to them. As a result, a hierarchical relationship between adventurers would be formed and used in various ways. However, in this case, they're mainly ordered to do trivial chores. Because of that, as experience as an adventurer could be gained, it wasn't always bad. Therefore, the practice was tacitly consented to in the guild.

However, the adventurers who were involved in the fight were D rank adventurers who had acquired experience and could be regarded as an independent group. Yet she heard from Lenora that they lost and even had their gold and weapons taken away.

Of course, the aim of the hot blooded adventurers was to beat up the person they fighting, Rei. Compared with the experienced adventurers, the difference in combat experience with someone who just became an adventurer was overwhelming. That's why Rei left a strong impression.

「That kid is it.....I heard that he tamed a Griffon, the guild master must have expectations of this rookie.」

Kenny remembered the figure of Rei in her mind. Wearing a robe, the figure with a large scythe stood out, it was someone you could remember without trying hard.

However, his facial appearance could not be remembered clearly due to the noticeably evil look of the scythe standing out.

「But, does the guild master hold that much expectation of the rookie to give special treatment?」

「Well, what's the ability of that Rei kid?」

「He has only received two quests. Subjugation quests for Goblins and Soldier Ants. He brought 10 proofs of subjugation from the Goblins. But for the Soldier Ants, he brought more than 30 proofs of subjugation.」

「.....Really?」

「Really.」

Goblins aside, defeating 30 Soldier Ants was something an organized C or D rank party would struggle with, yet he was by himself. Not many people could do that, let alone a rookie who just registered with the guild.

「.....Ahh, I see. If he brought his Griffon then he could do that. 」

「I think the fact that a Griffon follows that kid shows his ability.」

「So in the end, that Rei kid is a promising rookie.....speaking of which, because he is already counted as part of combat forces, the guild master favours him?」

「Well, that's most likely.」

「Is that kid only 15 years old? With that talent and ability at his age, he can likely aim for S rank in the future.」

Guild rank S. In this world, there are only three people who have that power level. The Rei that she was told to keep an eye on might become such a presence. When thinking about that, Lenora felt a zokuri~ feeling inside her.

「So, did the important Rei come today? I don't recall seeing him in the morning.」

Receptionist were truly the face of the guild, remembering individual adventurers during the morning rush.

「Because he received two subjugation requests on consecutive days, maybe he took a rest today?」

「Well, it could be so. It was over 30 Soldier Ants.」

「How should I say it, why are you suddenly interested about Rei?」

「Well, I want to get closer to that kid as its certain he's going to rise to the top in future. Is an older wife okay? And you know, I have the men's favourite body.」

While saying so proudly, Kenny placed her arms across her rich breasts to emphasize them.

To that appearance, Lenora wore a thin smile and blood vessels appeared as she twitched with a pikuri~ sound.

「I see that Kenny doesn't seem to know that it's not necessarily so? Roughly speaking, no matter how much talent you say he has, he's still a rank G. It will take even longer even if he is promoted to S rank, by that time, I'm sure that when the time comes, Kenny will still look great.」

To Lenora's words, Kenny started twitching.

「Ara~ ara~, I wonder if the child with the poor body also has poor ideas.」

「.....Kenny, are you trying to pick a fight?」

「Are you, Lenora?」

An explosive tension. Right when those two people were in that state, the sound of the bell informing them that it was noon, could be heard.

Disregarding the two people in that state, the rest of the staff and receptionists looked away and left the counter in order to quickly have lunch.

With all the people leaving, the unfortunate noon duty was left to Lenora and Kenny, who were staring daggers at each other, betting their woman's pride.

Getting along by fighting, relatives that abhor each other, it was that kind of friendship. Although there are various similar words, Lenora and Kenny were two people who symbolized that.

Thus, though it wasn't peaceful, the daily life of the guild wasn't dangerous either.

「So this is a potion.」

While the battle for honour unfolded between the women in the guild, Rei was looking at a beaker that he held in his hand while sitting on the bed in his inn room. A blue liquid sloshed around in the beaker.

A blue sky was spread outside, with the sunlight pouring down, this weather could be called good summer weather. However, Rei hadn't received a subjugation request from the guild today.

He was aiming was to examine the materials that could be removed from the Goblin rare the day before yesterday and the Queen Ant from yesterday. Therefore, he went to the bookstore from before in the morning and bought several books for a few gold coins. On his way back to the inn, a shop dealing in second hand items caught his eye. Besides potions to recover one's physical strength, standard mana potions that recovered magical power, medicine that recovered abnormal states and antidotes for paralysis, there were various other things sold such as traps and vices. He wasn't so interested in the gear as he had the Death Scythe for a weapon and the Dragon Robe for protection but he did buy several types of potions and stored them in the Misty Ring.

It should be noted why there wasn't any potions in the Misty Ring. It was because the developers of potions, Zepairu and his group has passed away. Takumu, who knew a lot about game development, tried to develop them but his research regarding potions didn't make any progress while he was still alive. Even if progress was made, potions were rare items and were not at a price where commoners or nobles could get their hands on.

「Even if I drink it it should be OK.」

Rei muttered while looking at the blue liquid.

The usage of the potion was extremely simple, drink or, as he heard from the second hand dealer, pour it onto a wound.

If you drink it, the effect is much higher. First of all, the effect reaches the whole body and not just the injured part, the recovery effect also lasts longer to some degree. In addition, physical strength is also somewhat restored. Although if applied at the location of the wound, the recovery is a bit faster, that's it. There are no additional effects such as sustained recovery or recovering physical strength.

But still, most people would apply it to a wound, the number of people who drink are few. Why was that? It was simply because potions were unpalatable.

「Yuck, I certainly would like to refrain from drinking this if possible.」

To confirm the story he heard from the second hand dealer, he dipped his finger in and licked a drop before frowning at the distaste.

The taste was like a concentrated green soup he had drunk out of curiosity in Japan, that was what he felt.

「Even though it's good to have some effect, it wouldn't help if drunk in battle.」

Even if the effect was high, drinking it in combat would be impossible due to the taste, it would be suicidal for Rei.

It should be noted that there are some people in this world who willingly drink it.....but Rei couldn't believe it.

Still, as there was a risk of not being able to recover in battle, he bought a few potions and stored them in the Misty Ring.

Was it possible for him to equip accessories with continuous recovery effects such as the one he passed to Set? Thinking about it, Rei's joy ended prematurely as an item with a recovery effect didn't exist on the list in his mind.

Afterwards, Rei's break passed while reading the book he had bought in the bookstore, studying the materials from the Queen Ant and other monsters.

Legend Chapter 24

Legend Chapter 24

Early morning. As always, the guild was crowded with adventurers. One person in a robe, Rei, came in, accustomed to the scene.

By the way, because Set had still been sleeping when he headed to the guild, only Rei had gone to the guild.

Rei wasn't recognized by many people as it had only been a few days since he registered, with his low height and seemingly delicate build, several adventurers tried to mess with him. However, their cheeks cramped when the surrounding people told them about what had happened to the Claws of the Hawk and they pretended to have not seen him

About the time he was moving to the front of some adventurers to look at the F rank request board.....a loud voice echoed through the guild.

「Please listen, there is a recruitment for an emergency request! As for the contents of the quest, there is an Orc village about a days distance from Gimuru, the village must be annihilated. For the reward, 5 gold coins will be given before hand. Two platinum coins will be rewarded upon the success of the quest. Separate rewards will be given based on degree of contribution. Moreover, though the reward for the the right ear of an Orc is usually 3 silver coins, it will be changed to 5 this time. In addition, though Orcs are normally D rank monsters, they are treated as C rank when in a group. Only people who are judged to be capable are able to participate. Needless to say, the minimum requirement is the ability to defeat an Orc by themselves. The applicants will be judged in the meeting room on the second floor of the guild in an hour, after registering with a receptionist.」

It might have been a former adventurer. The voice of the man who was missing half his right ear resounded in every corner of the guild.

「How many Orcs!?!」

A man who was in front of the C rank request board asked loudly.

「Unknown. However, we are certain that there is a minimum of 50.」

50. As soon as the number was said, the surrounding adventurers became noisy.

「Hey, the lowest number is 50 Orcs.」

「Ah. There's no doubt that there will be a rare species or higher species leading. The possibility of Orc mages mixed in with the group is likely to be high.」

「.....What will you do?」

「It's going to be big. After all, it's two platinum coins with 5 gold coins just for participating. But, naturally, if we are generously rewarded, the danger will be accordingly.」

「I'm not going. My party was once partially destroyed by 3 Orcs.」

「I'm participating. The reward is huge. A village of Orcs a day from here, the damage will spread to Gimuru if nothing is done. 」

While listening to such talk, for the first time in a long while, Rei brought out the information about Orcs from Zepairu's knowledge.

『Orc』

The name of a generic demi-human monster with the face of a pig. It's height is the same as the average adult male. They can use swords and spears but prefer close combat with clubs, there are Orc mages and Orc archers that use magic and the bow, there is also a higher orc species with better abilities called an orc general. However, the number of higher ranked orc species is small compared with the normal orc population.

Though it's combat technology isn't high, it's strength is considerable and it fights with brute force.

The race of Orcs is basically male, females from other races are used to breed. At this time, mostly human women are used.

Horde, it might be a instinctual thing but they lived by grouping in tens or more.

However, it's not uncommon for a horde of 100 to appear and gather more and more if a rare species or higher species appears.

(There is indeed knowledge of Orcs. Well, it is a basic monster of a classic fantasy setting.)

Drawing from Zepairu's knowledge, a satisfied smile floated onto Rei's face as he found the information.

(Now then, what should I do.....well, I shouldn't have any problems participating. Anyway, the contribution to the guild should be great as it is an emergency request. Likewise, the reward is exceptional compared to other quests. It's also hard to find a quest that rank isn't a condition for participation. It's not a bad idea to improve my fame in case a high rank monster subjugation quest appears in future. My fighting power being known to a lot of people is a negative factor.....well, it's too late to keep it secret after fighting Goblin Drool. However, I should consider the annoying possibility of increased solicitation after this request has been completed.)

From the Lord to the Guild Master and from the Guild Master to Lenora who was an acquaintance. Because Rei didn't know that if he was tangled up with adventurers they were to be notified immediately, he was weighing up the merits and demerits of receiving this quest, and the merits clearly outweighed the demerits.

Giving a small nod, he went to see Lenora, the receptionist with the ponytail who was in charge when he registered and who he subsequently submitted requests to.

「Ah, good morning Rei. Do you have a quest? 」

With a smile, Lenora asked, Rei nodded and smiled. Though the receptionist who looked like she was from the cat family of beast people turned her gaze to Rei for a moment while

processing the request forms of other adventurers, Rei didn't notice it.

「So, the quest is?」

「I would like to apply for the Orc quest from a little while ago.」

Orc subjugation. Lenora took a few seconds for the words to set in.

「So, Rei. I'll say this for now but although Orcs are D rank alone, when they group together they are C rank. As expected of rank G, I can't recommend you.」

「The recruitment conditions of the request said that you need to have the strength to beat an Orc right?」

「That, well, that's right.....」

「Then I won't have any problems. Though it's only a bit, I have the ability to kill a Water Bear in the Forest of Magic.」

「Water Bear!?!」

Although Lenora almost involuntarily shouted that out, she shut her mouth immediately.

「The Forest of Magic.....why did you go to such a dangerous place. Do you mean that you went to the Forest of Magic instead of the guild?」

「No, ah, well, Because it's a long story, I'll tell you about it if I have the opportunity. So about the matter of the Orcs?」

「.....Well, even though there shouldn't be any problems if you have the ability to beat a Water Bear.....However, as Rei is a G rank, any mistakes you make will stand out if you participate in this quest. There will also be people who will pick a fight with you like the Claws of the Hawk.」

Though Lenora said so anxiously, a smile floated onto Rei's face.

「At that time, I'll have a match with a bet again.」

「.....Please stop it if possible.....」

To Rei's words, Lenora wrote Rei's name onto the documents in her hand while releasing a sigh of resignation.

「The reception has accepted you to the Orc subjugation quest. Please wait in the meeting room on the 2nd floor for now. A detailed explanation of the quest will be given there.」

Nodding to her words, he headed towards the stairs leading to the second floor of the guild.

The guild meeting room, unlike Japan though, there's no projector or black board. It was only a room with chairs placed disorderly around in the large space. As for the large table that was originally placed in the center of the meeting room, it had been moved to the corner.

Registration had already finished. About 20 adventurers had already gathered into the room.

They had probably formed parties, the people gathered in groups of 3-5, talking about how it was necessary to push forward the Orc subjugation. Rei stepped inside to this.

While the other people were in several groups, a little boy dressed in robes walked in alone. Naturally, his figure was very noticeable and gathered all the gazes of those who were in the room.

Gata~! Among the people looking at him, several people abruptly stepped back, out of their chair, the sound echoing into the meeting room.

「Oi, what's wrong?」

「.....No, nothing at all.」

「Did something happen with that fellow? You could tell us the story.」

「Stop it! Don't mess with that guy!」

The party near the window had such a conversation. When Rei entered the meeting room, most of the people found it amusing and talked about it to their friends. All except one person. That is, a member that could use magic.

Though Rei didn't understand, because he only specialized in fire magic, there are some magicians who could sense the magic power in other people. And that magician who had that ability sensed a magic power that could be called overwhelming present in Rei's body.

(.....What? Is there someone who noticed the value of the Dragon Robe?)

Because didn't know of that ability, he misunderstood and thought that someone noticed the value of the Dragon Robe he was wearing and thought that they were surprised to see it.

Because he thought that it would have been distracting if he took the Death Scythe into the meeting room, he stored it inside the Misty Ring before entering the guild meeting room.

(Well, okay. I assume that we have to wait until the meeting starts)

Muttering to himself, he sat down in a vacant chair in the corner of the room and observed the other adventurers.

「Oi, that's right.」

「Ah. Is it the guy that defeated the Claws of the Hawk? I also heard it today.」

「But, if that's true, isn't he still G rank? Isn't it too soon for Orc subjugation?」

「Well, if he can knock down Vargas head on, then I don't think you need to worry. If you only judge combat power, he may be rank C.So a muscle brain.」

「Though he may be a combat force.....I don't want him to slow us down.」

「Come to think of it, the Claws of the Hawk? Aren't those guys participating in the Orc subjugation. 」

「I understand that they had all their weapons and cash taken away when they lost to that kid and they have debt with the guild so they have no time.」

「They should participate in the Orc subjugation quest if they have debt. They'd certainly be able to earn money.」

「As I said, their weapons were taken away. They're using spare weapons at the moment. With such weapons, do you think they can fight an orc, let alone a horde led by a rare species or higher species?」

「.....Well, I more or less understand.」

An adventurer group of 4 men were talking in low voices a little distance from Rei and he overheard them

(Debt.....looks that arrogant person has to pay. Well, the guild probably has some ideas.)

Recalling the face of Vargas for a moment, he erased it from his mind the next moment and observed the state of the other adventurers.

As expected, as all the adventurers gathered in the room were here for the Orc subjugation, there was quite intense atmosphere. The male to female ratio was roughly 7:3, the number of women wasn't as small as Rei thought.

And maybe there were adventurers also interested in Rei, there were a lot people frequently glancing at Rei.

Though they were interested, it was hard to talk to Rei as he gave off an atmosphere that kept people away. Meanwhile, several adventurers entered into the meeting room which had a somewhat uncomfortable atmosphere.

When their figures were seen, the noise it created was incomparable to when Ray entered.

Rei and the other adventurers attentions were directed to a group of 3 adventurers who just entered.

The first person to catch everyone's eyes was the man at the front. He was in his late 30's to early 40's. He had green hair and glanced around at the adventurers in the meeting room with a smile of a mischievous boy, not matching his age. It might be best expressed as a mischievous boy who grew up to an adult. He was covered in muscles, and it felt that he had a considerable weight although his height was that of an average adult man. He carried a huge battle axe on his shoulder, it seemed to be his weapon. He seemed to be the same as Vargas in regards to his battle axe weapon. If you compared Vargas to a Goblin, then this guy's atmosphere could be expressed as a cyclops. Moreover, the battle axe on his back had a charm that attracted glances, even though Rei wasn't able to feel magic power, even he expected that it was a magic item.

Behind the man was a female adventurer in her mid 30's. Looking at the cane in her hand, she was probably a magician. Maybe to make it easy to move, her blue hair was cut around her shoulders. As soon as the woman adventurer came into the room, she reflexively looked at Rei and unintentionally pulled back when she saw his magic power.

The last of the three, who caught the woman adventurer, was a young man. There wasn't much of a age difference between the first two, so it seemed. He hung a sword in his sheath at his waist. Maybe it's purpose was for light movement, he wore a leather armour that

seemed to be made from the skin of some sort of monster.

With pale blue hair, his features and face looked similar enough to the first two that he was probably related to them. Looking in the direction the woman was looking at, after leaving the woman to the other man, he rudely stormed up to Rei and opened his mouth after stopping in front of Rei.

「Oi, you. What did you do to my mother!?!」

He grabbed Rei, who was sitting down, and dragged him up.

This was the first contact Rei had with the famous A rank party in Gimuru, Axe of the Thunder God.

Legend Chapter 25

Legend Chapter 25

While looking at the face of the young man who grabbed him.....Rei looked back at him with expressionless eyes while watching him.

Maybe he didn't like that, the young man yelled at Rei with a voice louder than before.

「Answer me. I asked you what did you do to my mother.」

「.....Let go.」

Rei said unpleasantly while frowning his eyebrows.

That was natural. Rei himself couldn't recall getting mixed up with them at all.

「Just answer. If that's your attitude, should I respond the same way?This is your last chance. Answer me.」

「.....」

Rei judged that talking anymore would be useless. He grabbed the wrist of the young man that grabbed him in silence.

The moment he was going to crush the bone in that person's wrist.

「Rhodes, let go. The boy genuinely didn't do anything to me. I was only surprised when I looked at the boy.」

A cane was placed between the faces of Rei and the young man, Rhodes,.

「But mum! It's not normal for mum to back away for no reason! I'm sure this guy did something to you.」

To the woman who spoke those words, Rhodes argued back vehemently. However, the woman spat out a sigh and smacked the cane against Rhode's head.

Bogu~! When the sound of a blunt weapon hitting flesh echoed into the surroundings, the adventurers near Rei involuntarily winced as they imagined the pain.

「Gah~!」

As a result, Rhodes was squatting on the floor while holding his head, ignoring that, the woman lowered her head to Rei.

「I'm sorry boy. My son had been rude. Please forgive me.」

「.....」

Rei returned his gaze in silence, the woman lifted up Rhodes, who was crouched on the ground, and forcibly made him bow his head.

「I understand. Rhodes will reflect on this and won't be rude again. I'm happy if the situation can be cooled down. Of course, I'm not saying this isn't unconditional. If you need something, the A rank party Axe of the Thunder God promises to lend our power.」

At A rank group, Rei reacted with a twitch.

As Rei hoped to battle more powerful monsters by increasing his guild rank as soon as possible, there was no loss to form a connection with an A rank party in advance. Rei judged so and gave a small nod.

「There was no harm done. I'll accept the help from your A rank party.」

Listening to Rei's words, the woman gave a sigh of relief.

(That moment, this boy was going to crush Rhode's wrist, no mistake. This ridiculous magic power. I should say that we were saved that we don't have to fight such a person.)

Muttering in her mind, she opened her mouth to speak to Rei again.

「I'm sorry, I still haven't introduced myself. I'm Min. I'm the mother of this foolish son who quarreled with you.」

「Mum!」

Ignoring Rhode's words, she turned his gaze to the man who was watching the state of the 3 with interest.

「Although it's regretful, that is my husband, Elk, who is also the leader of the Axe of the Thunder God.」

Probably hearing himself introduced. The man named Elk approached the three with a smile on his mouth.

「Oh, it was my son's mistake to quarrel with you. Though it seems my wife has introduced me, I'm Elk. Well, my regards.」

With that, Elk gave a hearty laugh. Seeing the situation, Rei gave a light sigh, and opened his mouth.

「Rei.」

「So, is that it? There has to be something more, isn't there? What's your favourite food and type of girl?」

「Elk, you should keep quiet.」

After Elk heard Min's voice, he fell silent reluctantly. Even if it was only by a bit, Rei noted in his mind that Min seemed to have the most influence in the group.

「We've been working as adventurers for a long time in this city of Gimuru, Rei was it? However, I don't recall seeing your face, did you come to this city recently?」

「That's right. It's only been a few days since I registered with the guild.」

The first person to react to those words was neither Min, who was talking, or Elk, who was behind Min. It was Rhodes, who turned his gaze from Min to Rei suspiciously.

「Ha!? You, do you even understand what the adventurers are gathered here for!?!」
「The Orc subjugation?!」

Though Rei lightly replied, maybe Rhodes felt that he was being looked down on. Rhodes scowled at Rei with a red-hot face.

But, at that moment, the cane in Min's hand was swung down to the back of his head again, a loud smack was heard.

「Gah! Mum. Don't hit my head so hard that it makes a pon~ sound. I mean, that cane is a magic assistance item not a club.」

「Shut up, don't talk while I'm speaking without my permission. 」

「But!」

When Rhodes was just about to argue further, the man that had shouted out about the urgent quest entered the room.

Min, who might have judged that it was time, pulled her husband and son and sat down in the chairs near to Rei.

「Everyone, thanks for gathering. The number of people is.....」

Saying so, the man looked around the meeting room.

「30 people or so.」

There were only about 20 people when Rei came into the meeting room but a few more people seemed to have come while talking with Rhodes, Min and Elk.

After confirming that, he started to speak.

「I'm Hobbes and I'm responsible for this current quest. The rough contents of the quest were as said before, it is to subjugate Orcs. A 5 gold coin reward will be given as an advance. 2 platinum coins will be given at the end of the request. In addition, you will be given bonuses based on your contribution level. At the same time, the right ears, which are the proof of subjugation, are worth 5 silver coins for the participants of the mission instead of the normal 3 silver coins. Everyone good so far?」

Everyone nodded to Hobbes' words.

「The place where the Orc have made a village is about a day's distance from Gimuru. There are at least 50 Orcs.All good?! The minimum number is 50. Naturally, assume that there will be more than that. Moreover, make no mistake, there will be a rare species or higher

rank species leading. The departure time is today, in the afternoon. When ready, gather in front of the gate. It will be an overnight journey and will arrive in the vicinity of the village tomorrow afternoon. We will then take a break until night and will make a night attack on the village at midnight. Are there any questions?」

When asked if there were any questions, one adventurer asked.

「Is the existence of Orc mages confirmed?」

「It hasn't been confirmed but you better expect them.」

「What is the contribution level to the guild when this quest is completed?」

「Naturally I will consider it when you go up a rank. However, its limited to people who played an active part. It's not just participating in this quest.」

「Has the guild provided a wagon for transport to the village?」

「Ah. Yes, however, you can provide your own, I don't mind. In that case, goods will be loaded in the empty space.」

「Are the supplies given by the guild?」

「That's right. However, we do not mind if wish to prepare things yourself.」

「The chain of command?」

「For the commander, I am in charge.」

Hobbes answered the questions from the adventurers without pausing.

Rei, who heard the questions, raised his hand.

「I think I can help with the transportation of supplies, but will it add to the contribution points?」

「Helping with the transportation of the slides? By what means?」

To the words of Hobbes, Rei showed the Misty Ring on his right hand.

「This Misty Ring is a kind of item box. There won't be any problem with the transportation of goods with this.」

While saying so, he took out a potion from the Misty Ring and stored it back into the Misty Ring after that.

「An item box.....is it real!?」

「This is the first time I've seen one.」

「We...I mean, usually, is it even possible to such an expensive magic item in our lifetime? 」

The people in the conference room seemed to know about the dispute between Rei and the Claws of the Hawk, however, it seems that the number of people who knew that the item box was used in the bet was fewer.

As a result, among the people who knew, several of them observed Rei with a sharp glance.

Intentionally pretending not to notice the gazes, Rei directed his sight to Hobbes.

「.....All right. If you help the guild transport goods using the item box, you will get credit for it.」

Hobbes answered another detailed question.

「Okay, any more questions.....no? Then at the end please tell me what skills you have. Naturally I don't mind if you wish to conceal it. We'll start from those near the door.」

Hearing his words, a group of 4 adventurers went ahead and described their skills to Hobbes.

The guild wanted to know the skills of the adventurers for the quest, but outside of the request, they probably didn't want to tell their skills to other adventurers, who could potentially be their rivals. In that way, Hobbes was generous and said that they could hide their skills if they didn't want it to be known.

(In the end, I'm the only solo person.)

He murmured in his mind while looking at the state of the surroundings. All people except Rei was a member of a party, Rei was the only person in the room by himself.

「Rei, may I call you that?」

Min called out to Rei, who was observing the surroundings. Rei nodded to those words.

「That, if it's possible, could you show me the item box for future reference? Of course, because you are showing such a valuable item, we will repay you correspondingly later.」

「I don't mind, the Misty Ring can't be used by anyone other than me.」

「Ah, that's still okay. Certainly, by all means.」

He pushed the bracelet off his arm, seemingly with brute force.

「Heeh, this.....indeed, I can certainly feel a strong magic power.」

Next to Min, who was admiring it, Rhodes was looking at Rei suspiciously.

「Fun~, are you strong just because you rely on a magic and not because of your ability? If so, even I.....gah!」

Before his words could finish, Elk's fist was swung down on his head.

「What, Dad.....」

「You, getting sulky just because Min took an interest in someone else.」

「Dad, It's not really!?」

「It's obvious if look at it from the sides. Seriously.Sorry Rei. As you can see, although this guy is older than you, he can't seem to part from his mother.」

To Elk's words, Rei turned his eyes to Min, who was eagerly examining the Misty Ring. The calmness from when they first met had completely disappeared, Min had the appearance of

sparkling eyes.

「Don't worry. I don't mind his mother complex.」

「Mother complex?」

「Ah. Basically a term for a guy that loves their mum.」

「Kuku~, I understand. Well, Rhodes certainly has a mother complex.」

「Dad! You stop it too. You're speaking so insolently to a C rank like me even though you just registered with the guild.」

And Elk's fist was swung down on Rhodes head again, making him crouch on the floor.

「Seriously, don't get so agitated just because it hit the mark.」

「Oh, I'm not really.....」

Though Rhodes started to speak while holding his head, the loud voice of Hobbes sounded through the meeting room.

「Next, you with the item box!」

To that voice, Rei looked around, the number of people in the meeting room had already dropped to half. After finishing the conversation with Hobbes, they had already begun preparing for departure.

「Um, sorry. It's useful.」

Receiving the Misty Ring from Min, he put it back onto his right arm and went to Hobbes, past Rhodes who wanted to say something while holding his head.

「Your name?」

「Rei.」

「Rank?」

「G rank.」

As soon as Rei told his rank, Hobbes frowned.

「You know that the minimum requirements of this quest is to be able to beat an Orc right?」

「Ah. I'm still G rank because I only registered with the guild a few days ago, I have the ability to beat a Water Bear.」

「.....What?」

「If you want, you can ask the guild staff Gran if there is any unease, you should be able to understand if he explains it.」

「.....I understand. I check with Gran later, in the end, it's your own responsibility to accept the request. If you don't have the power, you can't complain, okay?」

Rei gave a small nod to Hobbes' words.

「.....All right. So, what are you good at?」

「Fire magic and close combat. Other than that, I can also tame monsters.」

Rei plainly stated his abilities. Hobbes took notes of something on to the paper in his hand as he heard it.

「If you can use magic and close combat, can I classify you as a Magic Swordsman?」

「That is right. But I'm more of a Magic Warrior than a Magic Swordsman. 」

「.....The difference?」

To the words of Hobbes, he took out the Death Scythe from the Misty Ring.

The length of the handle was over 2m, the blade of the Death Scythe was over 1m. Hobbes, who saw the huge weapon appear from nowhere, had his eyes grow wide.

The few people who were still in the meeting room were dumbfounded by the scythe which suddenly appeared.

「As you see, my weapon isn't something that can really be called a sword.」

「.....I understand. With that, may I expect you to transport the supplies?」

「Ah. No problem. I want to raise my guild rank as soon as possible.」

「Then after this, please come to the guild before noon after you're ready. I'll need you to collect the supplies.」

He nodded at Hobbes' words while patting the Misty Ring.

「By the way, may I take a tamed monster with me?」

「Ah, there are no problems at all. An increase in combat power is always welcome. However, what I don't want is injuries to other adventurers.」

「Because Set is clever, if he isn't messed with, he won't hurt others.」

「Right, you may go. Don't forget to come before noon.」

Nodding to Hobbes' words, Rei directly left the meeting room.

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Legend Chapter 26

Legend Chapter 26

「Ah, Rei, how was the request?」

Leaving the meeting room, the receptionist Lenora called out when he returned to the first floor of the guild. As there was no reason to ignore her as she had helped him several times, Rei stepped towards the counter.

「Ahh, no problems. I've successfully received the quest.」

「Is that so? But the enemy are Orcs, and I heard that there are a considerable number. Please be careful. It would be troubling if a promising rookie disappeared from the guild.」

As Lenora spoke, Rei saw worried eyes and an anxious look.

「That's right. Because you're still a rookie Rei, if it gets difficult, leave it to the higher ranked people and think of surviving first.」

The voice that was suddenly heard came from next to Lenora, it was a receptionist from the cat beast people. Because he had not talked with that person at all until now, Rei gave a questioning look.

「Ah, I'm sorry. I haven't introduced myself yet. I'm Kenny. A close friend of Lenora. Nice to meet you, Rei.」

「A, Ah. I'll be counting on you.」

Though it was certainly his first meeting with Kenny, she stretched out her hand with plain goodwill. Rei shook her hand while being slightly puzzled.

「Hey, Kenny.」

「What? The busy morning time has finished, isn't this okay?」

Though Rei turned his view to the area around request boards at Kenny's words, there certainly were few people around the request boards.

Though there were several adventurers eating breakfast before starting work, there weren't any people drinking.

「Anyway Rei. Because this Orc subjugation request will be rather dangerous, please take care.」

「Ahh, I'll make sure. Well, I'll have to go soon as there are a lot of thing I have to prepare.」

「Ah, okay. Take care Rei.」

「Rei, if you don't get hurt this big sister will praise you when you come back.」

Lenora waved her hand lightly as Kenny saw Rei off with a pose that boasted her big breasts.

Everyone who was still in the guild looked at him with jealous eyes while looking at the

appearance of the receptionists who were their idols. Rei seemed not to notice it as he walked out of the guild.

「Ara, welcome back. That was fast. Is it a day off today?」

When he returned to the Dusk Wheat, he bumped into Lana at the entrance. With her stout build, she was holding a large amount of ingredients, possibly the ingredients for tonight's dinner.

「Good timing. I'm going to be absent from here for a few days.」

「Yes, I understand. However, if your luggage is left in your room for longer than the time you paid for, it will be kept here. It will be disposed of if you don't come back within 3 months, is that okay?」

「Ah, I don't mind. Naturally, I'll be taking Set of course.」

「I understand. When will you be departing?」

「About noon.」

「Then, please come to the dining room before leaving. A food box will be prepared.」

Shortly after saying that, Lana disappeared towards the dining room. Maybe she was busy with the preparation of lunch and dinner.

Rei, who saw her go, returned to his room, took off the Shoes of Sleipnir and the Dragon Robe and lay on the bed.

Because all his basic luggage was stored in the Misty Ring, the only personal belongings he had in the room were a change of clothes and some coins.

(Orc horde. It's highly likely that its led by a rare species or higher species, is it.)

Rare species and higher species. The 2 are clearly different. For instance, the rare species goblin that Rei had defeated. That was a mutation of a goblin. However, for the higher species of goblin, a goblin that was born to the world as a greater existence, they were High Goblins.

(Anyway, with the Orc's high rank, I expect it will be easier to acquire skills. However, I'd better not attract too much attention to the peculiarity of Set and the Death Scythe.)

Currently, Rei was already noticeable with his ability, evil looking weapon and the like. In addition, because the existence of the Misty Ring was announced in front of so many people, it would be impossible to avoid people with underlying motives, they would come sooner or later. In fact, there were several people who sent sharp glances when the Misty Ring was shown in the conference room. As well as that, a Griffon that could use Water Ball and Fire Breath and the Death Scythe that could corrode the enemies equipment, when these become public knowledge.....

(No, wait. Though there's no way to hide Set's Water Ball and Fire Breath, I may be able to deceive them by saying the corrosion is my magi.....maybe? No, well, anyway, it's best if I can prevent the truth from being known.)

The skill of the Death Scythe that could corrode the enemies metallic equipment was, if anything, more effective against human opponents than monsters.

Though it's natural if you think about it. Their claws and horns and parts of the body like their fangs and tails were the weapons of monster, for humans, it was the sword and shield, a human's fighting power drops drastically without weapons or armour. And considering that most of those arms are made of metal, you could say that the corrosion skill was its natural enemy.

(Set can fight with only his basic ability as a griffon. And I can conceal the corrosion ability as much as possible.....or something like that. But, according to Zepairu's knowledge, there are a lot of Orcs that use weapons, I can't do much but adapt to the situation.)

Adapting to the situation.....something like that, Rei judged so and haphazardly stood up from the bed and started preparing for his departure.

Well, the things he needed to prepare was only the Dragon Robe and Shoes of Sleipnir that he had taken off before lying on the bed.

Although it was still early in the day, he judged that it was a good time to eat lunch in the dining room as he had promised Hobbes to go to the guild before noon.

「Ah, customer. Yes, this. Please eat it for dinner tonight.」

As soon as he entered the dining room, he was passed a food box containing plenty of sandwiches.

There was a large amount compared with a normal food box, it was heavy. Surprised by the unexpected weight, he instinctively asked.

「It seems like a lot more than usual?」

「That is so. Although you will only be absent for a few days, you can receive the 10 days worth you rented. Um, today's lunch has been deducted from that. Please sit, food will be brought immediately.」

Thus, he ate lunch in the Dusk Wheat. Satisfied with the plentiful sandwiches for lunch, he went to the stables.

「Gururu~」

Set gave a joyful cry when he saw Rei come in.

The other horses in the stables began to fidget restlessly.

Set was a creature with an overwhelming status. However, though he was in the stable, they would feel safe when he was asleep, they remembered their fear again when Set woke up as Rei walked in.

Rei took Set out of the stables while smiling wryly at the situation.

「Set, we'll be going for overnight expedition for the Orc subjugation.」
「Guru~」

I understand, Set gave a short cry.

「However, this time it isn't just Set and I. In total, there will be a few dozen people. Therefore, I don't want any of your peculiarities known to anyone aside from me. It would be troublesome if you got mixed up with some strange people right? At any rate, outside the city, there will be various problems in the event you kill someone. Therefore, the use of Water Ball and Fire Breath is restricted while killing Orcs. Of course, you may use it if you judge it to be a life or death crisis.」
「Guru~」

Reluctantly, Set agreed. Rei opened his mouth to speak while scratching and patting Set's head.

「I'll have to say this instead, there is likely to be a considerable number of Orcs. Because there seems to be a rare species or high ranking species like the one from the Goblin subjugation, magic stones are expected. Is Set interested in the meat from the Orcs?」
「Gururururu~!」

Maybe he recovered his mood with those words, Set gave a happy cry.

While smiling wryly at how the mood was easily restored by food, he went to the Adventurers Guild at once.

As always passers-by in the streets were surprised or scared by Set. Buying suitable food from stalls, they ate even though they just had lunch, the extra's were stored into the Misty Ring.

While doing that, he walked along the road to the Adventurers Guild ahead. Without Rei saying anything, Set moved to the carriage waiting area and flopped down to resting.

After lightly patting Set's head, Rei entered the guild.

Inside the guild, just before noon, there were a bit less than 10 adventurers sitting at the bar eating lunch. However, as Rei entered the guild and walked to the counter, a few of them observed Rei while eating their meal.

(.....Is someone watching me?)

Rei felt people looking at him as he approached the counter. In this place, the reason for this attention was probably a member of the Orc subjugation force that saw the Misty Ring.

(Relaxedly travelling to the Orc village doesn't seem to be possible after all. However, well.....)

A faint smile floated onto his mouth.

(I'll deal with it if they attack)

「Rei?」

To Lenora at the counter, who caught sight of him and called out, Rei removed his smile.

「Ah, Rei. What's wrong? Did you forget something?」

Kenny, who was next to Lenora, also asked.

Because it was a bit before noon, they had some spare time. There were only a few people around the request boards when he looked around briefly, most of the staff were also out, only a few were at the counters.

「Not at all, I was told by a guild staff called Hobbes to come before noon. There seems to be very few people though?」

For a moment, after saying so, he directed his eyes to behind the counters.

「That's because a considerable number of people were pulled over for the preparation of goods and carriages for the Orc subjugation Rei is participating in.」

「About that, did you say Hobbes? Does that mean Rei is not going to the Orc subjugation quest?」

He shook his head to Kenny's somewhat hopeful words.

「No, it's about the transportation of goods.」

「Transportation of goods? Why were you called for that Rei?」

「Hey, Kenny! Stop rushing into things!」

Lenora chided Kenny when she asked Rei.

When the description of the Orc subjugation quest was explained, adventurers didn't want to reveal their abilities to others. The other adventurers were still rivals although companions.....So, a usual adventurer would have judged that. But, however.

「Ah, it's because I have an item box.」

Without any common sense, Rei answered plainly.

That said, when he got into the dispute with the Claws of the Hawk, he had majestically shown the Misty Ring. Since the dispute with the Claws of the Hawk had happened right in front of the Adventurers Guild, he naturally thought they knew the information. He had also demonstrated it at the meeting for the Orc subjugation.

But what if by chance, the two, Lenora and Kenny, did not have the information that he had an item box? They looked at him with startled eyes.

「Eh? Rei san has an item box?」

「Uwa~, Rei kun is amazing. Hey, hey, let us take a quick look.....」

「You came.」

A low voice interrupted Kenny's excited voice. But, it wasn't possible to miss his voice. It was a voice with a great presence.

「Ah, Hobbes.」

「Ah, thanks for your good work.」

Lenora and Kenny, quieted down and gave a small bow when they noticed him.

Hobbes turned his gaze from the two people to Rei without saying anything.

「Over here, follow me. The supplies are ready.」

After saying that, he went past the counter towards the back entrance of the guild.

「Then, see you soon.」

「I'll take care to come back.」

Nodding after saying farewell to Lenora and Kenny, he went after Hobbes.

By the way, the glances from the bar that had persistently occurring during the conversation with Lenora vanished as soon as Hobbes appeared.

「These are the goods you need to carry.」

To Hobbes words, Rei turned his eyes to the mountain of goods in front of his eyes.

Aside from things like potions and mana potions, there were also medicines like antidotes and paralysis removal medications. There were also preserved food such as dried meat, dried fruit and biscuits. In addition to tents, there were also a large amount of various goods necessary for the subjugation. Though it was only a days distance from Gimuru for the Orc subjugation, it was one day to travel and one day to subdue, they couldn't return immediately. In total they needed 3 days to go and return. And when you thought of the extra amount needed for unexpected situations, the quantity came to a small mountain.

Still, this amount was possible to move as it was only a day's distance, if it was a further

place, the amount would have more than doubled. After all, you need enough food to serve 30 people.

「Can you carry it?」

「No Problem」

Giving a small nod to Hobbes' words, Rei stored the goods one by one into the Misty Ring by touching the mountain of goods.

Hobbes looked at the situation impressed.

The goods were all stored within 10 minutes, according to Hobbes' instructions, several goods were then repeatedly taken out of the Misty Ring and stored back.

「Right, I'll leave the goods to you. Also, you were by yourself. Until we at least reach the Orc village, I would request that you act with the party Axe of the Thunder God. It won't be funny if we can't access the goods on the way to the Orc village if you die.」

「I understand.」

「So, it will soon be time for the members to gather at the main gate. Because I still have some business, you go ahead.」

Nodding to Hobbes' words, he left.

(Finally it's the Orc subjugation. Now then, what kind of magic stone will I get. Others likely have the same aim as me, it's unlikely to be boring.)

Legend Chapter 27

Legend Chapter 27

Rei, who had stored away various supplies necessary for the Orc subjugation into the Misty Ring, left Hobbes, who still had errands to run and exited the guild through the back door.

「Gururu~」

Set noticed Rei and gave a happy cry, the two of them headed to the city of Gimuru's main gate.

「Oh, do you have a quest today?」

Ranga came out and called out to Rei and Set familiarly. The most of the guards were still frightened by Set, so though he was the captain.....no, because he was the captain, Ranga seemed to have become in charge of Rei and Set

Well, though that being said, a big reason was because he had been told to look out for Rei by Margrave Rowlocks.

Removing his guild card from the Misty Ring, Rei spoke while handing over Set's Necklace of Subservient Monster.

「It is a quest, speaking of which, have you heard about the Orcs building a village?」

Ranga twitched as he replied.

「Of course I've heard it.....even if you say you're strong, you're still G rank? Were you even able to accept the request?」

「It's a urgent request this time, if you have the strength to take down an Orc, rank doesn't matter.」

「.....I see. Well, if you can defeat a Water Bear, then you don't have any problems with strength.」

「That's right. So, the reason I'm here is because the subjugation force agreed to meet at the main gate in the afternoon. I'm a bit early at the moment.」

「Guru~」

Not yet? Rei patted Set's head while receiving the guild card back from Ranga.

「Sorry that took up some time. Though you have Set with you, please take care.」

Nodding to Ranga's words, Rei moved to a grassy place a little distance from the main gate with Set.

「Guru~」

As Set lay down comfortably in the grassy field, Rei leaned against him. Though the members originally should have waited beside the gate, he had only been at Gimuru for a

few days. Because there were still people who didn't know the existence of Set, Rei did so in consideration of not disturbing the flow of people in and out of the city.

Set as well, rather than being in the city, seemed to enjoy basking in the sunlight on a grassy plain, in a happy mood, he began to give a cat like purr.

Though Rei in his original body would have likely received heat stroke by staying under the summer sun for so long, it was because his physical ability was different, because the Dragon Robe functioned as a simple air conditioner, he could lean against Set with a cool face.

「.....Rei-kun, is it?」

Leaving precaution of the surroundings to Set, he suddenly noticed his name being called while enjoying he was enjoying his sleep and dozing off, Rei's consciousness rapidly awoke.

Opening his eyes, a woman in her thirties was in front of him, she wore a robe and had a sturdy cane. Next to her, a middle aged man watched with an interesting face while the figure of a boy around Rei's age had his face harden as if seeing something he couldn't believe.

It was the three members of the A rank party Axe of the Thunder God, Elk, Min and Rhodes.

「Is it about time?」

「Not yet, but alsothat, may I ask you something?」

While generally guessing what was about to be asked, Rei nodded to Min's words.

「I don't think there's a mistake but you're leaning on a Griffon.Why?」

Even if you say they were members of the Axe of the Thunder God, they still had some fear towards the Griffon, an A rank monster. Though Min timidly asked, Rei's answer was extremely short.

「It's because I tamed it.」

「Do-Don't joke around! You're a G rank adventurer but the Griffon.....-!?」

Although it was Rhode who retorted and shouted frankly at Rei's words, he became lost for words when Set turned his head round and gave a deep cry.

This couldn't be helped. Even if you say he belonged to an A ranked party, Rhodes himself was only an adventurer of the C rank. Taking notice of the A rank Griffon, he was instinctively reminded of the difference in status between them.

「Hey, settle down Set.」

While smiling wryly at Rhodes appearance, Rei calmed Set down.

「Guru~」

While scratching Set's head as usual with a kori~kori~ sound, he said to Rhodes.

「I'll say this for now, Set isn't hostile to others. However, if the other party wants to harm me, that's different.」

「.....」

To those words, Rhodes still felt that Set might growl at him and wasn't able to say anything as his mouth opened and closed with a paku~ paku~ sound.

「Gahahahahaha. This is great, boy. Though I've seen monster tamers, this is the first time I've seen someone tame a Griffon. Hey, may I touch it?」

「Dad!」

This might be the difference between an A rank and C rank. Or, it could be just the difference in experience.

「Set, what will you do? That man would like to touch you.」

「Guru~.....」

Set stared at Rhodes, Elk and Min in order. After a few seconds, he gave a short bark and gave his tail a short wave.

「He says you can.」

「I see. Sorry about this.」

There was a high degree of risk in touching a A rank monster, however, Elk didn't have a strained appearance and smiled as he reached out his hand. His hand touched Set's body, which Rei was leaning against.....

「Oh! What, this smooth texture. This is the first time I've seen a griffon, it's fur has such a smooth touch.」

The best way to describe Set's fur would be that it had a smooth texture like silk.

While patting the smooth fur, with a satisfied mind, Elk nodded.

「Hey, Rei. Did you say Set? It could be possible with this quality to make clothes with this fur for royalty you know?」

「Now then, what to do about it. I don't mind it as there wasn't such an intention.....」

「.....Rei-kun, may I pat it too?」

Unable to hold her curiosity at Elk's words, Min also asked.

When Rei looked at Set, he shook his tail in the same way as with Elk.

「He doesn't mind.」

「I see, then at once.Elk, move away a little bit. Let me feel the smooth touch.」

「Mum! It's dangerous to approach a Griffon!」

Though Rhodes tried to stop her, of course, it wasn't possible to stop Min, whose eyes were shining with curiosity.

「Hou~, hou~, hou~, hou~.....the touch is certainly smooth. Enough that I want to touch it forever.」

「I know right? Well, it's our lucky day today to touch a Griffon without worrying about being attacked.」

「That's right, it's as Elk said. A rank monster Griffon, it's a priceless experience to touch it's body.」

While seeing two people patting his body in such a way, after turning and glancing at Rhodes with sharp eyes, Set closed his eyes.

「Kukuku~. It doesn't like you, Rhodes.」

Elk saw the situation and called out to Rhodes while smiling as he and Min stroked Set's body.

「Beh, I don't care even if I'm disliked by a Griffon.」

No treatment, Elk let out a sigh. In that state, Rei called out to Elk.

「I was told by Hobbes to act together with you until we reach the Orc village. Please take care of me.」

「Huh!? Why do we need to take care of a rank G all the way!?!」

To Rei's words, Rhodes was naturally the first to react, but it was Elk rather than Rei who interjected.

「That's a matter of course. Ah, of course I don't mind.」

「Dad!」

To Rhodes who argued vehemently, Elk let out an amazed sigh.

「Listen up. Recall the meeting that took place this morning? Rei was entrusted with the transport of goods for use this time in the Orc subjugation quest.」

「Ah. I know it because I heard it as well.」

「Well then, what do you think will happen if Rei gets taken out by a Orc or another monster?」

「That is.....ah.....」

「Have you finally realised? That is right, all the supplies and equipment are gone if Rei dies. Well, here's the problem. What are we?」

「.....A rank party, Axe of the Thunder God.」

「That's right. Furthermore, we are the only A rank party participating in the Orc subjugation this time.」

Rank A. Though it is one rank below the guild's S rank, because only 3 S rank people existed in the world, every adventurer knows that A rank is only just below them. And as S ranks are

scarce with only 3 in existence, to general adventurers, they consider people of A rank to be substantially better than themselves.

And the Axe of the Thunder God was a party with 2 such A rank adventurers. Their ability and track record in Gimuru were considered top class talent by the guild, which wasn't a mistake.

「We, who are considered to be the largest combat force, are accompanying Rei, who is carrying the subjugation forces' supplies, as bodyguards.Is there anything strange?」

「I certainly understand the importance of the supplies. However, isn't it okay even if we don't guard this guy? Because even B or C rank parties could act as escorts.」

Rhodes became obstinate and objected to Elk.

(Shit, mum and dad should take care with a guy like that. An item box and a Griffon, he's relying on his monster and magic item and not his own power. As for the need to guard him in particular.....)

While thinking so in his mind, he directed his gaze to Elk.

His antipathy to Rei, although the person in question didn't know, was because of his mother, as Rei had said.

Of course, his father, Elk, who was the leader of the Axe of the Thunder God, naturally noticed this.

「Listen up. This is my decision as leader of Axe of the Thunder God. There will be no objections, you are not allowed to skim on the escort either.」

「.....Okay.」

To Elk's unusually strong order, Rhodes reluctantly nodded in the end.

(Seriously, did we spoil this fellow too much? Even if his ability is C rank.....he has the character of sticking to his mother. It will be good if he can receive some influence from Rei in this quest if possible.)

Unlike Min, Elk couldn't detect magic power. However, as an A rank adventurer, he still vaguely guessed Rei's ability and potential. By talking, Elk was able to generally grasp his character. Though Rei hid a vast power in his body, he wasn't a bad person.Moreover, when he heard what happened to the Claws of the Hawk, he couldn't help but have a wry smile.

For Elk, he didn't like the way the Claws of the Hawk picked a fight with a rookie to make him do their chores.While knowing that there is some effect on the development of a rookie, he could never come to like it. Therefore, when he collected information on Rei after the Orc subjugation meeting, he didn't feel irked hearing about Rei's trouble with the Claws of the Hawk. Rather, he did well! He cheered and applauded.

While watching Elk worry about his son's behavior, Rei turned his gaze to the main gate while leaning on Set.

The people from the parties that he had seen in the meeting in the morning were gathered. While most of them were talking, they frequently turned their eyes to Rei. Rather than Elk of Axe of the Thunder God.....most were looking at the Griffon, Set. It wasn't unreasonable as while people had heard information about Rei from inside the guild, it was still the first time they had ever seen a genuine Griffon.

(But.....the eyes observing me and not Set are the same as before)

Those eyes had followed him ever since he showed off the Misty Ring in the meeting room. They were eyes he felt all the time except when he was in the Dusk Wheat inn.

For the people sending glances, they likely prioritized obtaining the Misty Ring over the Orc subjugation, Rei had a wry smile as he had a feeling in his mind that a fight would come sooner or later.

「Oh, he came.」

At Elk's murmur, Rei turned his gaze to the main gate again.

From that place, around 8 wagons came from the city. The figure of Hobbes could be seen in addition to the coachman of the first horse drawn wagon.

「People who have received the Orc subjugation quest, each party must gather up and ride on a wagon. In addition, Rei and Axe of the Thunder God will be in the center wagon with me. Do you all understand?」

To the adventurers gathered who began to talk, Elk then asked.

「Ah. The purpose is to reduce the possibility of losing the goods?」

Elk said in reply to Hobbes' words.

Elk headed to the horse drawn wagon. Min and Rhodes subsequently followed. Rei and Set also headed for the wagon.

Adventurers who had gathered near the main gate began boarding the wagons they decided on hastily as Set came near. Elk and Hobbes continued their conversation without minding at all. And.....

「Okay, we're setting off! It's the Orc subjugation!」

Legend Chapter 28

Legend Chapter 28

Gata~, goto~, gata~, goto~. While making such noises, the 8 wagons left the city of Gimuru.

Adventurers who were participating in the Orc subjugation were inside each wagon, aside from the coachman, the figure of at least one adventurer dispatched by the guild was with them in case of an attack by monsters or bandits.

Meanwhile, only the coachman was outside the wagon that Rei was riding in.

「Being able to rely on the searching ability of a Griffon was a good miscalculation. Though I heard that you had tamed a monster, I'd never thought it would be a Griffon. When he asked Gran about the story, he doubted his sanity when he heard it.」

「Gahahaha~. It seems to be so. When I also got to the front gate to meet, I thought the same when I saw Rei using the Griffon as a pillow a bit further away.」

「It's unexpected that the horses that are pulled the wagons are calm. When Set appeared, the horses at the inn's stables were in a restless state.」

If the horses pulling the wagons were afraid of Set, then it wouldn't be possible for them move, Set would have had to move away from the wagons and travel by himself. And because Rei wouldn't be able to be with him, travelers and merchants who saw Set would submit a subjugation request to the guild, after the Orc subjugation would be a Griffon subjugation.....though that flow of thought wasn't really a possibility.

「I heard from Gran that the monster you tamed was a Griffon. I had to prepare war horses in a hurry.Well, it was worth it.」

Hobbes looked out the window of the wagon while smiling wryly. Set was walking quietly next to the wagon.

Even if Set was near, the horses pulling the wagon were not frightened at all compared to the horses in the stable of the Dusk Wheat, they pulled the wagon indifferently.

War horse. They were produced by crossbreeding pedigrees of horses that had high performance, they were also trained to not be frightened or confused in combat. Their bodies were about 1.5 times larger than a normal horse, it had the fighting power to stomp to death monsters the level of Goblins. Naturally, their price was several times the cost compared to the normal horses travelers and merchants use. For the 8 wagons, there were a total of 16 of these expensive war horses. From that alone, you could tell how serious the Adventurers Guild was about the Orc subjugation.

「But, it seems the people riding the other wagons don't trust Set so much.」

Though Rei said that they could leave the watch during the journey to Set for the time being, the other adventurer parties didn't like it. He didn't push further after Hobbes said that they could handle their own security.

「It can't be helped. After all, hasn't only been a few days since you registered with the guild? Not all the other parties have the same track record as Elk, it's something they can't bear.」

「While the guards of the other wagons are vigilant, I think the biggest reason is the Griffon and not other enemies attacking.」

Rhodes connected Hobbes' words. Elk also nodded.

「Well, to those guys, it's nothing but a nightmare to be attacked by a Griffon. It can't be helped. Though Min and I aren't worried since we get along with Set.....Rhodes, it's a bit dangerous for you at the moment.」

Grinning, Elk made fun at Rhodes while smiling.

However, Min, who was sitting across from Rhodes, thrust out her cane and buried it into Elk's belly.

「Guh! M-Min.....you can't just thrust with the cane in this narrow wagon, though it might not pierce.....if it wasn't me, others would be injured.」

「Shut up, idiotic husband. It's because you're purposely threatening Rhodes.」

「Mum.....」

To Min's words, Rhodes had a happy voice.

(I guess the mother complex is going to show much heavier symptoms from this.)

While looking at the situation, Rei took the meat skewers, which were still hot, from the Misty Ring and carried it to his mouth.

The texture was close to chicken, but it was actually the meat of the Poison Frog. Previously, it was a Poison Frog that Rei had encountered during the Goblin subjugation quest. Once the poison is extracted from the meat, the meat can be steamed, he discovered it being cooked with a special sauce and sold in a store on his way to collect the goods in the guild, he bought a few out of curiosity and stored them in the Misty Ring. Inside the Misty Ring, the flow of time is stopped, because of that, the skewers were still steaming hot even though they had been bought a few hours ago.

「Uoh~, something smells good.....Rei, what are you eating?」

Maybe he had recovered from the pain of the blow from the cane, Elk, who smelled the sauce, stared enviously.

His eyes were already sparkling to the extent you wouldn't think he was a middle aged man, the atmosphere of wanting to eat spread into the surroundings.

And Rei, who no longer endure the looks, couldn't help it and took out a Poison Frog skewer out of the Misty Ring before giving to Elk.

「Oh, sorry about this.....wait, it's still burning hot. How come?」

「It's a function of the Misty Ring. The flow of time stops inside. If you store things, hot things will stay hot and cold things will stay cold when you take them back out.」

「Heh~.....as expected, it's worthy of being called a rare item in the world.」

Min nodded, impressed at Rei's explanation. And Rhodes, who saw that, naturally entered a bad mood.

「Hmph. Even if the quality of the magic item is good, if the person's ability is low, there's no point in coming to the Orc subjugation.」

Like that, the Orc subjugation force advanced in the wagons with seeds of unease left around.

One of the wagons. A three person adventurer group were riding in the wagon, one was keeping watch at the driver's area.....cautious mainly of Set than the surroundings.

「Hey, what are we going to do. I participated in this dangerous request for a chance to steal the item box. I didn't here about a tamed Griffon!」

「Wait Al. Don't get so flustered, it's unbecoming.」

「Sunyi, do you really understand the situation? It's a Griffon, a Griffon! It's an A rank monster, the shinigami of the skies! It's not something we as a D rank party can fight!」

「Be quiet Al and Sunyi. Even if you say that the Griffon is tamed, it doesn't mean that it follows that rookie 24/7. Especially while fighting and camping.....」

The argument between the male and female adventurers in their twenties was stopped by a woman in her thirties.

「But big sis. Wouldn't the Orc subjugation fail then?」

「So what then?」

The woman replied frankly to the man's voice.

「But then.....that, if the Orc subjugation fails, the city of Gimuru.....」

「Calm down Al. Nothing major will happen to the city of Gimuru even if the Orc subjugation fails. If the going gets tough, they can just get reinforcements from the country.」

In that situation, it will probably give the nobles faction an opportunity that they've been looking for, she murmured in her head.

The woman's name was Seryl. She was a C rank adventurer. With Al and Sunyi, who were in the same wagon, and the man who was in the driver's area, Murgas, she led the four of them in a party called Dark Night's Star. Usually, these four people wouldn't receive a subjugation request for Orcs, let alone ones led by a rare species or higher rank species. Then why had

they received this quest? It was because they were aiming to steal Rei's item box.

If you searched the world, item boxes were rare. You would be able to make a mountain of money if got your hands on one. A numbing feeling flowed down Seryl's back by just by thinking of it.

(And I'll be able to leave this dangerous frontier area with the money. I would live a wealthy life in the Imperial City.)

Seryl was already in her thirties, she wouldn't be able to continue her adventuring work for much longer. She had already given up on ranking up to rank B. She was only at a C rank caliber.

And at this time, a rookie in his mid teens had appeared. When she heard that he had an item box, Seryl had made up her mind. She had to take the item box at any cost. No, it should have been something she should have had in the first place. Because she had worked so hard for so long.

Seryl was convinced, she ordered three subordinates, who were currently her party members, to investigate Rei's actions. And, with that timing, they happened to hear Rei participating in the Orc subjugation, with that, they also decided to join.

「But you know, big sis. That Rei brat, didn't he have the ability to take down the Claws of the Hawk by himself? Even without the Griffon they said.....」

「Use your head a little, Al. We don't have to defeat that rookie fairly from the front. There's no problem even if we steal it while he's asleep. When he's fighting we can surprise attack from behind. Any means possible.」

Seryl had a smile with meaning, but Al, who had an honest mind, didn't see it.

Regardless of whether Rei was protected or not, Al had an attachment to the city to Gimuru. That was why he didn't want to obstruct the Orc subjugation quest.

(In addition, he defeated Vargas quickly. I was told that Vargas, even if it was only combat power, was a C rank, no mistake.)

Al suddenly, thought about what Murgas, who was sitting in the driver's area, would do.

Murgas was basically a timid person, because of that, he was scared of the existence of the Griffon, that's why he had volunteered to keep a lookout at the driver's box so he could perceive any actions even a bit sooner. As a timid person, if he sensed the state of the Griffon to be strange, he would probably give a shout into the wagon before running away quickly.

「.....Ah.」

Meanwhile, Sunyi, who had been quiet until now, let out an unexpected voice.

「Anything, Sunyi?」
「Sis.....that, Griffon.....」
「Griffon?」

Griffon, the tension couldn't be concealed when that word was said, Seryl prompted her to continue.

「With one kick, it just scattered a pack of Fang Wolves.」
「-!?!」

Seryl and Al suddenly stood up from their seats and went to the window at Sunyi's words.

Looking ahead, they saw a pack of Fang Wolves, wolves with a distinctively larger fang, being trampled by a Griffon.

With a single swing of its claws, a neck was severed, thrusting its beak at another wolf, it pierced another head, a wolf that tried to sneak around and bite his tail had its body crushed by the lion like feet.

「It's taking on a pack of Fang Wolves so easily.....」

Al leaked a voice of blank surprise at the fight.

Speaking on a rank basis, the Fang Wolf was an F rank monster, it wasn't strong by itself. However, they are the only wolves that turned into monsters and still formed groups to hunt. Because of its low rank, adventurers who just registered with the guild assume that a Fang Wolf subjugation isn't that hard, because of that, there would be cases of the hunters becoming the hunted several times a year.

F rank is still F rank, even if it formed groups, it was only E rank. But no matter what rank it was placed at, the degree of risk was D rank equivalent.

It may be possible to defeat a pack as a C or D rank adventurer party. But, to fight easily, to the point of overwhelming them, it couldn't be called a fight like that. But looking out from the wagon, the Griffon seemed to be unhurt.

Seeing the figure of the Griffon, Sunyi, who had been deriding Al for his timidity, had the thought pass through her head of what would happen if they messed with the rookie and failed.

「Big sis.....」

The voice of Sunyi that called out to Seryl had traces of fear and fright.

It wasn't good the way things were going. Their minds may have given up before they could take the item box from Rei. Seryl who determined that, spoke up loudly.

「Both of you, there's no need to be scared. Though I said it before, our aim is only to take

away the item box. Even if you say how strong the Griffon is, there's no need to fight them head on. You only need attack him by surprise, take away the item box and run away quickly.」

Naturally, because they would run away from the subjugation duty, the fate of Gimuru would be involved, if they did carry it out, it would be unlikely that they would be able to stay in the city of Gimuru. However, Seryl intended to live off by selling the item box, escaping to the Imperial City and retiring comfortably. She would possibly be put on the Adventurer Guild's wanted list through the Gimuru branch but she was a C rank and had confidence in not being defeated by local adventurers. As soon as she got the money from selling the item box, she would hire a strong bodyguard, she may even be able to apply pressure on the guild by siding with the nobles faction.

Even if the guild called itself an organization independent of the country, in the end it was still the country's land, Seryl expected that they wouldn't put her on the wanted list if they didn't want to get into trouble with the nobles faction.

When she pictured her purpose and bright future in her head again, even the sense of fear from the scene of the the Griffon's slaughter was wiped away.

Starting to speak, she clapped the shoulders of Al and Sunny, who were looking anxious, with a ban~ ban~ sound .

「Come on, it'll be okay. First is the camp tonight. If it goes well, we'll be able to take away the item box and quickly run away before we reach the Orc village. Look for a good opportunity. 」

At a distance a bit further away from where Seryl was speaking, Set was pecking meat from a Fang Wolf that was double the size of the others in the pack.

Legend Chapter 29

Legend Chapter 29

Pachi~ pachi~, the sound of the burning campfire echoed around, it could be heard in the tent Rei was resting in.

As the only sources of light that illuminated the area were the moonlight and bonfire, several adventurers gathered around the campfire, wary of the surroundings.

It was currently night time. Aside from those assigned to the night watch, the rest of the parties had eaten dinner and were resting in their tents.

In the tent Rei was resting in, the three members of Axe of the Thunder God were also sleeping while keeping their hands on their weapons, ready in case an enemy came.

Originally, Rei wanted to rest alone, however, he was ordered by Hobbes to be in the same tent as Axe of the Thunder God, just in case.

(.....So, they didn't come.)

There was a reason Rei wanted to rest alone. It was a party which had sent glances at him since he received the Orc subjugation quest, he wanted to make himself bait to lure out Dark Night's Star, a party of 3 men and a woman. Originally, he didn't want to do such a troublesome thing, but he decided to do something early when he thought of the possibility of being stabbed in the back when fighting the Orcs. However, during the night, nothing in particular happened, maybe they thought they couldn't do anything with Set and Axe of the Thunder God next to him.

In addition, it should be noted that Rei was going to work a shift of the night watch, but he was also exempted from it under Hobbes' orders.

「Big sis, it's pointless. The tent the rookie is in is the same tent as Axe of the Thunder God, the Griffon is also uncomfortably close. I think we should have taken advantage of the cover of darkness earlier.」

From the entrance of the tent given to Dark Night's Star, Murgas looked at the tent Rei and Axe of the Thunder God were in. Murgas said that in a low voice so as to not be heard by the people sleeping near the tent.

Though Rei's tent would normally be invisible at that distance, even with campfire light, Murgas, who was in charge of Dark Night's Star's scouting, had good night vision. In addition, the tent Rei was in had Set lying outside, sleeping.

「Tch, it can't be helped. We'll call off tonight's raid.」

As Seryl said that sulkily, she flopped down inside the tent and rolled away. Though there weren't any blankets, they weren't necessary as it was unlikely to catch cold in this summer season.

「Seriously, it was unexpected of Hobbes to trust the Griffon. The other guys too, consenting to having a monster so near.」

Though Hobbes was given command of the Orc subjugation force, in the end, he was only a commander in battle. Before arriving at the Orc village, he wasn't the absolute commander.At least Seryl thought so. Therefore, when they decided to camp here, she appealed saying that she didn't want to sleep near the Griffon even if it was tamed.....however, Set's senses were explained to be exceptional, in addition, after seeing Set's combat effectiveness against the pack of Fang Wolves, none of the other adventurer parties backed Seryl up.

While hearing the story, the adventurers saw Set being pampered by Rei whilst making a gurururu~ sound, even if it was only slightly, they judged that they wouldn't be harmed by the Griffon as long as it was with Rei, at the same time, they calculated that Set would be sharper than an incompetent watch if he was near the tents. However, they still had alternating watches as a precaution.

In addition, every time Hobbes' hourglass timed out, another party would take their turn for lookout.

At night, Dark Night's Star acted differently than the other adventurers to Rei and Hobbes' actions, the uncomfortable feeling about Axe of the Thunder God or the unpleasantness of being next to a Griffon.....they ended up putting their tent on the grounds at the place furthest away from Rei's tent.

「Big sis, what do we do?」

Though the voice of Sunyi spread through the tent, Seryl answered while closing her eyes.

「We can't do anything with the Axe of the Thunder God and the Griffon at his side. Tonight we'll rest and sleep quietly. The real thing will be tomorrow night, at the time we attack the Orc village.If we can steal the item box, we will also get all the supplies that have been prepared for this expedition.」

Seryl muttered, she remembered the scene in the evening when they had decided to camp here. It was the scene of the supplies needed for setting up camp appearing one after the other in the hand of that rookie, this alone showed the true value of the item box. And at the same time, it provoked Seryl's greed even more.

Seryl lied down and closed her eyes, she fell asleep while imagining the scene of living in the Imperial Capital without needing to work.

She remained unaware of Al frowning his eyebrows lightly next to her.

The next day, the tents had already been all stored back into the Misty Ring, the only traces left were the remains of the campfires lit the previous night. The breakfast of biscuits and dry meat, prepared by the guild, was quickly eaten and the preparations for departure completed.

.....By the way, because Rei had stored the food box prepared by the landlady of the Dusk Wheat into the Misty Ring, he ate the sandwiches in the food box instead. On a side note, Set had flown somewhere himself to hunt and ate by himself.

Though he wasn't sure what happened to the magic stone, Rei judged that it probably wasn't a high rank monster as an announcement message didn't appear in his mind after Set had his breakfast.

Hobbes spoke up to the rest of the Orc subjugation force as departure preparations were completed.

「Listen up. Though I said it yesterday, if we keep going like yesterday, we will reach the vicinity of the Orc village sometime around noon. We will then take a break until midnight for everyone to restore their strength. That is for the people who were on night watch last night and lack sleep in particular. The surprise attack is timed for just after midnight. As you know, Orcs are a monster that acts in groups. First of all, because they are likely to have a guard, they have to be taken out silently. To completely annihilate the Orcs after that, each party will encircle the village and attack it. After killing all the Orcs and collecting proofs of subjugation and materials, we will stay until morning. Any questions?」

「Do you get exclusive rights to the body if you defeat a rare species or higher rank species of Orc?」

「Ah, of course.」

「What happens if you discover weapons or treasure that the Orcs have?」

「In that case the person who found it can claim ownership.」

Hobbes proceeded to answer the minor questions that were also asked.

While listening to the discussion, Rei thought about his magic.

(If it's my magic, I can just wipe out the village.....no, that will probably burn everything. Should I do it?No, the Orcs in the village will be turned into charcoal and I won't be able to get the magic stones. Then, that leaves participating in the attack with the other parties to obtain them.....I guess?)

Giving up on the magic stones and burning down the entire village, monopolizing the achievement, or participate in the surprise attack with the rest of the adventurer parties, giving priority to collecting magic stones and sharing the achievement. Thinking for a few seconds on which was more advantageous, Rei readily chose the latter.

If he chose the former, he would certainly monopolize the achievements. However, in other words, he would be depriving the other adventurer parties of achievements. As a results,

when thinking about the possibility of being unjustly resented, the latter choice was better as he could obtain magic stones. Though there may be a chance to obtain achievements other than the Orc subjugation, this place was the only possibility of obtaining the magic stones of rare and high ranking Orc species.

「Right, are there any other questions? Then split up and board the wagons like yesterday. We're departing.」

At Hobbes' words and signal, they each boarded the wagon they rode yesterday.

At that time, several impressed adventurers gave out some words of thanks to Rei and Set. Even though Set had stayed by Rei's tent all night, some confidence was gained after spending a night with him.

「Rei-kun, we should also ride the wagons.」

To Rei and Set, who were watching the other adventurers, Min's voice came over.

Behind her were the rest of Axe of the Thunder God, as usual, Elk had a smile on his lips while Rhodes was looking at Rei in a bad mood.

「You're right, we will be able to break for a bit longer when we reach there.」

Muttering, Rei, boarded the wagon after patting Set lightly.

In addition to Rei and Axe of the Thunder God, Hobbes boarded similarly and the war horses began to pull the wagons.

A while after the wagons started moving, while Rei was learning about the knacks of stripping materials from monsters defeated in the labyrinth, Hobbes unexpectedly interrupted the conversation.

「Rei, and Elk as well. Though I think you've noticed, a party with purposes other than subjugating Orcs seems to be participating in the subjugation force.」

「Ah. Is the party named Dark Night's Star?」

Rei nodded to Elk's words.

Dark Night's Star was an adventurer party of three men and a woman. In particular, Rei had noticed glances clouded with greed from the middle-aged woman who was the leader.

It was the same eyes he had felt from the time the meeting for the subjugation force in the guild ended, the glances became more obvious after leaving the city.

When he felt the eyes that were filled with greed, at first, he thought if his body was the

aim. Aside from the time he was still Saeki Reiji, the body that Zepairu's organization had created was quite beautiful, Rei was able to somewhat understand.

However, the direction of the gaze from the leader of Dark Night's Star, Seryl, was neither his face or body but the Misty Ring that was on his right arm.

「I see, so you have noticed. Apparently the aim of those guys seem to be the item box, no doubt.」

「I bet. Did they think I hadn't noticed, they were blatantly looking at my right arm.」

If Rei was an actual, ordinary G rank adventurer, then he might not have noticed the glances directed from the C rank adventurer Seryl. However, fortunately or unfortunately, Rei wasn't your average G rank adventurer.

「.....I see. If you think about the strange glances, then their aim is probably the item box. Shit, just because of such a small thing. Generally speaking, you're a G rank, so why do have such a rare magic item?」

Rhodes muttered while looking at the bracelet which was worn on Rei's arm. As expected, it seems the members of Axe of the Thunder God were aware of the greedy looks.

「I lived with my teacher who taught me magic in the depths of a mountain, I don't know the location. So, he said that my training had completed the first stage and used spatial magic to send Set and I to the Forest of Monsters, because of that, I was given some magic items. They are this Misty Ring, my main weapon, the Death Sycthe and aside from that, various other things.」

He told that to Rhodes while remembering the description he had given Ranga when entering the city of Gimuru.

「.....Forest of Monsters, is it? You, were sent there with spatial magic?」

「Ah. I was truly surprised when a Water Bear appeared right in front of me after being sent there.」

「Water Bear.....」

Rhodes looked at Rei with a dumbfounded expression. The look of contempt in his eyes that was there a few minutes ago had become somewhat thinner.

「Well, putting aside the Forest of Monsters. Rei, be careful with Dark Night's Star at night. Those guys' intentions are probably to steal the Misty Ring, they'll try to hit you with a surprise attack or something.」

Rei nodded to Elk's words.

「I thought so. They seemed to hate Set sleeping near tents at the camp last night.....I think that is likely. Well, after all, the proposal was rejected by all the other parties. Even if I kept Set away from the tent temporarily, Axe of the Thunder God are still in the same tent I'm sleeping in, I don't think they'll try anything.」

「But, the item box.....no, isn't the Misty Ring only usable by you, Rei? So is there even any point if Dark Night's Star took it?」

Min recalled what she was told when she was shown the Misty Ring in the meeting room at the guild, Rei had a smile of ridicule on his mouth.

「In the end, rare goods are still rare goods. It might be interesting to let them steal it on purpose and see their comical figures after realizing they can't use it.....」

「Oi, oi, supplies for the subjugation are in it. Don't do dangerous things for no reason.」

「Ahh, I'm just joking. There's no need to do such a pointless thing. It will be troublesome if ends up being thrown away because it can't be used.」

「That's right. Anyway, Axe of the Thunder God will look out for Dark Night's Star at night, take care Rei.Rather, when we start the night attack on the village, can you act with Axe of the Thunder God?」

Thinking about Hobbes' words for a few seconds, he shook his head.

「No, there aren't that many people available. It isn't necessary to leave a gap for the Orcs to escape.」

Though Rei answered as such, his real intention was that he didn't want to be seen absorbing magic stones if he cooperated with Axe of the Thunder God.

「I see. Well, though you should be okay with the Griffon.....don't be careless. Watch out for Dark Night's Star for the time being as well.」

It was true that there certainly was few people in this urgent request. Hobbes nodded with a bitter expression as if he had bitten on a bug.

With that, the Orc subjugation force arrived near the village before noon.

Legend Chapter 30

Legend Chapter 30

The location was about an hours walking distance from the Orc village. The Orc subjugation force from Gimuru stopped the wagons and the leaders of each party gathered in Hobbes' tent for a strategy meeting. Rei was also called to the meeting as the person in charge of transporting supplies.

Though there are adventurers on watch so that Orcs and other monsters don't come near, they don't have a nervous appearance.

To begin with, excluding Rei, the lowest ranked adventurer party to accept the Orc subjugation quest was still D rank, and above all, the Griffon, Set, was keeping watch.

「Well, though we have arrived here safely at last.....I want to scout the situation at the Orc village first. Are there any volunteers?」

To Hobbes' words, all of the participating party leaders remained silent.

Even Elk was silent. After all, the party composition of Axe of the Thunder God was 2 warriors and a mage. It couldn't be helped as they didn't have anyone in charge of scouting.

Though there were parties with thieves, they judged it to be too dangerous and remained silent.

Moreover, as for the leader of Dark Night's Star, Seryl, though they had thief like Murgas, their aim was different.

(It's necessary to have Murgas watch the rookie. He's been ordered to steal the item box if there is a chance, I can't assign him the troublesome duty of scouting the Orc village.)

As she was thinking this in her mind, her eyes swam around for a moment when Hobbes glanced at her.

「Seryl, wasn't there a thief in Dark Night's Star? How about that guy?」

「I apologize, but his personality isn't good to scout the Orc village. He's basically a coward. Well, he's a thief who can find the enemy before they find us.」

By the way, here, a thief didn't mean someone who stole things. When adventuring, their role was to scout ahead and to make traps. They were thieves in the sense that would open trapped chests in labyrinths without needing a key.

「.....I see.」

As Rei was watching the exchange of words between Hobbes and Seryl, he raised his hand.

「Though I think someone has asked, in this case, will scouting count towards achievements for the guild?」

「Ah, that's natural of course.」

「Then, I will do the scouting.」

「.....What?」

For an instant, Hobbes wasn't able to understand what Rei was saying and asked again.

「As I said, I would like to take on the role of scouting.」

「Wait a second. Do you have the skills of a thief?」

Though one of the party leaders near Hobbes asked, Rei shook his head in silence.

「I haven't acquired such skills.」

「Then I will object. Though my party can't provide a thief, I'm against you scouting if it risks being found. If we're found, won't the night attack be ruined as well?」

「That's right. I'm also against it.」

All the other party leaders agreed with the words of the man who spoke up first.

However, as Rei saw his thoughts being rejected, he smiled as he started to speak.

「Certainly, I don't have the skills of a thief. And the general opinion is that the night attack will become useless if I'm found while scouting. However, as you know, I have Set.」

「Ah!?」

As soon as Rei said that, the others understood what he wanted to say. Elk gave a loud cry.

While the neighbouring people turned their eyes to Elk, Rei continued to talk.

「Set's a Griffon. In other words, it can fly. And because I tamed Set, naturally, I can ride on his back.」

As he said that, all the other people in the area understood how Rei was planning to scout. They turned their eyes to Rei with looks of admiration.

.....With the exception of one person, Seryl, who had a bitter expression on her face.

Still, the reason why no one had thought of scouting from the sky until Rei said it was because magic that allowed people to fly was a highly advanced magic and very few people could use it.

At the same time, though there naturally were beastkin adventurers participating in the Orc subjugation force, beastkin from bird families didn't exist, as a result none of them had thought of scouting from the air either.

By the way, although there are people called Dragon Knights among the knights of the country, it took lot of resources and time to hatch a Wyvern from an egg and raise it along side a Dragon Knight candidate, as a result, most of them belonged to the country's military forces and were stationed in the Imperial Capital, there were none of them in a frontier city

like Gimuru.

「Hobbes, is there a problem if I ride Set to scout the Orc village from the sky?」

「No, there are none. I mean, we welcome it if you can do it.」

Grinning, Hobbes nodded as a fierce smile came on to his face.

「What should I look for?」

「First of all is the number of enemies. Next is where the village is built. Lastly, it will be good if you can note where the defense of the village is weak. At the same time, I would like to know who the monster is that is leading the Orcs. Whether it is a rare species or a high ranking species.I hope it's a rare species.」

Rare species and high ranking species. Speaking of which is more troublesome, it is still the high ranking species. While rare species have abilities that are better than their species, high ranking species live up to their name. Though there is not much difference between a rare species and high ranking species in terms of ability to lead, it is easier to subdue a rare species, was Hobbes explanation.

Rei nodded to Hobbes words and left the place.

He felt the hateful eyes of Seryl, directed to his back.

(Damn, if possible, I wanted to steal the item box before the fight with the Orcs started. Did he volunteer to go out to scout on purpose? Seriously, is the only thing he wants to do is to gain points with the guild.)

While Seryl vaguely guessed the reason in her mind, Hobbes called out to the party leaders in the area.

「We'll finish here. Because we'll gather again when Rei comes back from scouting, please stay nearby.」

To Hobbes' words, the people went back to their own parties.

「Gururu~」

Set saw Rei after Rei left Hobbes and gave a joyful cry. Several adventurers who happened to be in the surroundings watched Set with smiles.

Apparently, by sharing the watch, a lot of people had lost their fear of Set.

「Set, we'll go out for a while. 」

「Guru~?」

「Hobbes left us the job of scouting. Will you be able to scout safely if you fly over the Orc

village?」
「Gururu~」

Will do, Set gave a small cry and turned his back to Rei.

「I'm relying on you.」

After patting his back and sitting on it, Set opened his wings after a run up of a few steps and ran up into the sky, as if stepping on the air.

Adventurers watched this scene enviously.

A blue summer sky and white clouds. And glaring sunlight. Set stretched his wings and flew in such weather. Because they were flying at a reasonably high altitude, Rei judged that even if the Orcs looked at the sky and saw them, they would think it was a bird.

Rei, who was across Set's back, observed the Orc village beneath his eyes. Although scouting the ground from this altitude would be difficult for a normal person, this was a body made by the concentrated efforts of Zepairu and his organization, it wasn't particularly difficult for him to see the state on the ground.

Though Hobbes had said there were about 50 Orcs, the scale of the village was larger than expected. There might be around 100 Orcs. However, on the contrary, it may be the Orcs misfortune. For that reason, the village hadn't been completely built, east side region was almost completely untouched. Still, being cautious in the mean time, several Orcs acting as sentries could be on the east side from the air.

「Perhaps the building larger than the others in the center is the home of the Orc leader.」

The buildings that the other Orcs lived in were poor ones made from a mix of wood and straw. However, the building in the center clearly took more effort in comparison to the buildings around it.Still, it was shabby compared to the houses in Gimuru.

「For the number of Orcs, the situation has been confirmed. Now, I should be able to check the leader of the Orcs.....no, with my knowledge, I won't be able to tell if its a rare species or high ranking species.....I guess?」

Muttering at that time, the appearance of an Orc entered Rei's eyes. It was about double the size of a normal Orc, it was equipped with some kind of armour while the rest of the orcs were armourless.

「Is that the individual leading the Orcs?」
「Guru~」

Rei muttered while Set gave a cry at the Orc village, he drew Rei's attention to a place that they had looked at before, a bit further away.

「.....I see.」

There was an Orc at the place noted by Set. The Orc was also wearing armour and was double the size of the other Orcs.

And when you looked at the state of the village carefully, similar Orcs were present.

「In that case, those armours denote officers or generals.I guess?」

Next, he caught sight of a place where the Orcs had gathered. It was a shack north of the village. There were just under 20 Orcs around the hut.

「What? Is that a food storage or something?」

As he was thinking, the next moment, as he was about to leave the village, something jumped out of the hut and began to run.....outside, it was held down by the Orcs that had gathered. Rei's eyes, that were much sharper than a normal persons, confirmed what had jumped out. Wearing what seemed to be the remains of clothing on her body, it was a human woman that was almost stark naked.

When he concentrated on his hearing, 『No, stop it! Please don't dirty me anymore than this!』a voice could be heard faintly.

Rei furrowed his eyebrows at that sight, he recalled from Zepairu's knowledge that Orcs used human women to breed.

「Help, is it?No, I can't help.」

If he only considered his personal feelings, he would have rushed down and killed all the Orcs. However, even if he could take care of the Orcs near the shack, it would likely make the rest of the Orcs wary. It could become a factor in the night attack and cause it to fail, finally, it would affect the number of people sacrificed from the subjugation force as well as the number of Orcs that would be able to escape.

「.....Tonight. I'll help if you can hold out until tonight. So don't give up.」

Though he knew that the woman who had been pulled back into the hut couldn't hear him, he gave a small mutter.

Rei himself averted his eyes to continue scouting, aware of the anger he was feeling as the woman was taken back to the shack and decided he would take out the Orcs at tonight's night attack.

「In the end, most of the weapons the Orcs have are swords and clubs. Several are carrying shields.There are some with bows.」

With a bow in hand, Orcs with a quiver on their back could be seen walking through the village. And.....

「Are there canes too? Those are Orc Mages.」

Though there were only a few, the figures of Orcs with canes could be seen.

「Right, this much scouting should be sufficient. Set, we'll head back.」

「Gururu~!」

Giving a sharp cry in response to Rei, Set spread his wings and returned to where the Orc subjugation force had camped.

「Orcs, tonight is your last night. I hope you enjoy your time before night to your utmost.」

With those cold words, Rei left.

When Set glided in and landed on the ground, several adventurers in the surroundings unintentionally clapped their hands as they saw it.

However, several smiling adventurers who were going to call out to Rei understood that there was something about the Orc village when they saw the cold smile on his face. They let him go straight to Hobbes.

「Guru~」

As Set gave an anxious cry, several adventurers gave him some dried meat and patted his head.

Leaving Set there, Rei headed straight to Hobbes, the person in question, Hobbes, also came to meet Rei.

「Rei, you're back.」

「Ah.」

「How was the scouting?」

「I've roughly seen everything.」

「I understand. When you returned, I had already notified the party leaders to group. Please come.」

So informed, Rei followed Hobbes who went ahead. Though Hobbes felt his appearance was somewhat strange, he judged the top priority was to hear the results of the scouting and went to the tent for the meeting without saying anything.

As Hobbes had said, the party leaders had all gathered, they all gave a sigh of relief upon seeing the safe appearance of Rei.

Seryl, who was aiming for the Misty Ring, was the same. However, regarding Seryl, it was a sigh of relief that her prey hadn't blundered on the scouting mission and had been killed by the Orcs.

Seeing Rei sit down, Hobbes started to speak.

「Well, Rei. Please report on the results of scouting at once.」

「Ah. First of all, the number of Orcs, the original 50 that we assumed has been greatly exceeded. There's probably 100.」

100. The cheeks of the party leaders cramped the moment those words were said.

As they had joined the subjugation force to fight 50, it was no wonder.

「Calm down! I would like to say this first. The number of 50 was the lowest estimate. It was expected that the numbers would be greater.」

「However, I never hear that the number would be doubled. Can't we decide to return to the city?」

「.....And overlook the damage of the Orcs to the city of Gimuru?」

「That's.....」

The person who advised withdrawing didn't persist strongly when it was said that damage would be done to the city of Gimuru if they retreated here. Even if that person didn't have friends in the city of Gimuru, they had acquaintances. If it was said that they might end up as victims of Orcs, they wouldn't retreat.

「At the same time, though there might be more Orcs than expected, as a result, they haven't finished building the village. The East side is almost untouched. However, I have confirmed the presence of sentries instead. 」

「I see, the East side is undermanned. That's good information. I will reference that for the night attack.」

「As you want. Also, there were Orcs double the size of normal Orcs who were wearing armour.」

「.....Those are Orc Generals. That's one of the high ranking Orc species.」

「Others had bows, several with canes were also confirmed. Unfortunately, I wasn't able to find the individual leading the Orcs.....but because there was a building built better than the others in the center of the village, it might be there.」

「Orc Archers and Orc Mages.....the center of the village.」

「Ah.As well as that, there's one last thing. There is a shack to the north of the village, and I have confirmed there are humans there.」

Humans in an Orc village. The others that heard it had their faces stiffen, Hobbes opened his mouth to speak.

「That's.....a woman, is it?」

「Ah. I think the Orcs go there to breed. Though when I last saw they still looked alive.....」

「I see.Did you notice anything else?」

「No. That is all.」

「I see, I understand. Then please rest until night. I'll explain the strategy at dinner.」

Giving a small nod to Hobbes' words, he left the tent.

Several hours remained before the night attack. Everyone started their combat preparations.

Legend Chapter 31

Legend Chapter 31

Clouds appeared at night, blocking the moonlight. Ideal for a night attack. Each member of the Orc subjugation force moved to their respective positions under the cover of darkness.

Around the Orc village, to the north, north east, east, south east, south, south west, west and north west, each party located themselves at their positions.

From the strategy explained by Hobbes, firstly, as the village hadn't finished construction, the Axe of the Thunder God would gather their forces by making a flashy attack from the east. The other parties would come in once Orc reinforcements went to the east and the defenses weakened, that was the plan.

Naturally, as the Axe of the Thunder God would be the ones to attack first, the general consensus was that the battle would be fiercest there as the Orcs gathered. Elk, who led the Axe of the Thunder God said,『Believe in us, we're an A rank party』, with that, the other parties all consented. It could be said that getting everyone's consent with a single sentence was proof that his experience and track record could be trusted.

Rei, with Set's mobility as a Griffon, was placed in charge of guerrilla attacks and wasn't placed at any of the eight locations.

「Set, it's about time. Are you ready?」
「Guru~」

In the darkness, Set gave a short cry as the dim moonlight, due to the clouds, exposed his body.

At first, since a Griffon has the upper body of an Eagle, shouldn't it have poor night vision? Was Rei's thoughts, but after spending a night in the Forest of Monsters, it was found that there wasn't any problems.

TL Note: For those that don't know, Eagles have poor night vision.

「Orcs, your lives end today. Disappear and become food for Set and I.」

With Rei's mutter, almost simultaneously, several lightning bolts rained down on the Eastern part of the Orc village. It was the magic of Min, the mage of Axe of the Thunder God.

「It has begun. Set, Our main aim isn't the high ranking Orc Mages, Archers or Generals. Our top priority is the individual leading the Orcs.」
「Gururu~!」

On the ground, a group of Orcs could be seen heading East, organized roughly due to the panic at the sudden raid. And, taking that chance, the other parties attacked the Orcs from behind, invaded the Orc village from various locations and headed towards the East.

While seeing the action from the sky, he looked for the appearance of his target.....

「There!」

Rei's eyes discovered 5 Orc Archers drawing their bows fully back to attack an adventurer party they had discovered to the south west. Due to the fact that the surprise attack was carried out at night, even the adventurers hadn't noticed that they had been targeted by the bows.

「Set!」

「Gururu~!」

To Rei's sharp shout, Set also gave a sharp cry as he dived to the ground. This state was reminiscent of Raptors aiming at their prey.

The arrows shot by the Orc Archers hit the man at the back of the adventurer party, penetrating through his left leg, body and his right arm. However, he could be considered fortunate, the two remaining arrows pierced the ground away from the adventurer. The adventurer hit by the three arrows fell to the ground, his friends dragged him towards cover in a panic. The Orc Archers seemed to be dissatisfied that they hadn't killed anyone and shot a large number of arrows at where the adventurers had taken cover.

The leader of the archers searched for his prey, he fired arrows at different locations from time to time, trying to locate the position of the hidden target.

Because this was the Orcs' village, they had the home ground advantage. Not using it would greatly reduce the Orcs' combat ability. Using this area could be considered proof that there were high ranking Orc species.

However, the difficulty of getting close to archers corresponded to their weakness in close combat. Therefore.

「Haah!」

Jumping from the diving Set, Rei poured magic power into the Death Scythe and swung down. The Orc he was aiming for was split in two like a piece of bamboo. Without realising what had happened, the body fell to the left and right separately. With a gusha~ sound, the freshly cut internals of the Orc spilled out of the body and splattered onto the ground.

In addition, Set, who had been diving, swung his claws and crushed the head of an Orc Archer with his momentum.

Rei gave a quick glance and saw the Orc Archer's head fall with a dosha~ sound as the body fell to the ground. Swinging the Death Scythe up from below, he targeted an Orc Archer that hadn't comprehended what was happening.

At the same time, Set, who had landed on the ground, pecked out the throat of an Orc, and the next moment, use his front claws to cleave the body.

「Bumoo~!？」

The remaining Orc Archer finally realised that they had come under attack. However, he was only able to raise a confused voice. The next moment, his head fell to the ground with his neck neatly separated by the swinging Death Scythe. Several seconds later, the body of the Orc Archer collapsed to the ground with blood gushing out the neck, as if noticing the head was gone.

「Set, are there any more？」

「Gururu~」

Though Rei called out to Set to check for enemies in the surroundings, Set shook his head side to side. Judging that the Orc Archers here had been dealt with, he quickly stored the bodies, bows and arrows of the Orc Archers into the Misty Ring.

「Rei, is it? Thanks for saving us.」

As he finished storing everything, a member of the Orc subjugation force called out to him, it was the leader of the party that had been attacked earlier by the Orc Archers.

Because they had been locked down by the Orc Archers and couldn't move, they were planning to move out once the attack of arrows had subsided. Following behind the leader was a typical warrior equipped with a sword and leather armour.

「Where's the other person？」

「He's treating the guy hit by the archers.」

「Are the potions enough？」

「Ahh, the supplies we received are sufficient for now.」

As for the health and mana potions that he had brought in the Misty Ring, he had distributed them to each party during the evening. That person was probably being treated with them.

「What happened to the corpses of the Orc Archers？」

The warrior behind the leader asked curiously. It would be strange if there were no corpses if the monsters were defeated.

「I've already stored it into the item box. It's a high ranking species of Orc. It's better to prevent disputes in future.」

「Well, that's true.」

The warrior nodded, agreeing with the leader.

「Then, I'll be returning to the sky as a guerrilla unit to check the state of the other parties.」

「Ah, I understand. Thanks for saving us.」

「Don't mind it, this is my job.」

He replied lightly to the leader before getting on Set's back.

「Set.」
「Guru~!」

With a run up of a few steps and a flap of his wings, Set kicked against the air as he rose into the sky.

「It seems to have become very noisy.」
「Guru~」

What Rei saw as he rose into the sky were flames burning in several places in the village. Someone may have used fire magic which then spread to the Orc buildings. And with the light, it was possible for Rei to grasp what was happening on the battlefield.

「Hm?」

As Rei observed the ground lit up by the light source, he noticed an adventurer party heading to the shack in the North.

They might be going to help the woman he saw during scouting who was caught by the Orcs for breeding.

However, bad luck for them, they ran into Orcs who were just leaving the shack. Naturally, a fight occurred.

The adventurer party in charge of the northern side had 3 people. They were against 5 Orcs. One of the Orcs was bigger than the other and was wearing armour. It was a high ranking species, Orc General.

「It seems I can't abandon them.」

It was a fact that he was still angry from appearance of the Orcs he had seen during the day. It was good to be able to vent his anger.

Rei determined this and directed Set to the next fight with a belligerent smile.

「Set, next is there.」
「Guru~!」

Following Rei's words, Set dived towards the 3 v 5 fight they had seen just before. Rei jumped off Set's back when their altitude had dropped to 10m above ground and activated the Shoes of Sleipnir to walk on the air preparing the Death Scythe and dropping towards the Orc General who was commanding the other 4 Orcs.

「Bumo~!?!」

As expected of a high rank species, the Orc General noticed something approaching from the sounds Rei made as he descended, he raised the large sword at his waist above his head by reflex.

Normally, that would have been sufficient. It was no joke to say that the sword of the Orc General that Rei was targeting was the size of a great sword. It should have been able to block the average weapon. But.....

「Don't think you can block my attack!」

The Death Scythe was swung down. Death Scythe. It was a magic item created as a by product of Rei vast magic power during the activation of the Magic Beast Art. Aside from raising its sharpness by magic power, the Death Scythe that exceeds a 100kg in weight, felt like a pair of chopsticks in his hands. A scythe weighing over a 100kg with its sharpness increased by magic power. What happens when such a weapon strikes a great sword that isn't a magic item? The answer was in front of Rei's eyes.

The Death Scythe was swung down, cutting through the Orc General's raised great sword without any resistance, cutting through the helmet that seemed to be made out of some monster skin, through the head, body and armour before it slammed against the ground, blowing a great cloud of dust with a roaring sound as it created a 2m radius crater.

「Bumoo~!」

The Orcs that turned around due to the sound saw the appearance of their commander falling left and right with his armour split in two in the crater.

And Set, who followed Rei and dropped from the sky, didn't miss the chance of the Orc frozen in surprise. With the speed from diving, wielding his claws in the same manner as the surprise attack against the Orc Archer from before, Set crushed the head of an Orc.

「Now, do it!」

To Rei's sharp shout, the adventurers pulled themselves together and attacked the Orcs who were looking at Rei from behind.

The vanguards held a sword and spear. The adventurer at the back shot an arrow as a sword swung down at the back of the head of an Orc, killing it instantly. Arrows shot by the archer pierced into the back of an Orc consecutively. Thrust with all his power, the Orc that withstood the pain had its head destroyed by a spear to the back of its head.

「Bumo~!」

Their leader, the Orc General, was killed and a monster, Griffon, attacked them. The humans they were fighting just before stabbed them from behind and finally he was the only one remaining. The Orc understood that and judged that he had no chance of winning even if he fought. Without even the pretense of fighting, he threw his sword at Rei before running away at full speed.

Though the adventurers tried to chase the Orc, Rei, who had cut the discarded sword with the Death Scythe, stopped them.

「Leave it alone.」

「But why! That's an Orc!」

To the voice of the adventurer with the spear, Rei had a ferocious smile. The adventurers who saw it sensed a great pressure for a moment, but they still looked at Rei as they wanted to know why he left the Orc.

「At any rate, all the Orc in the village are going to die tonight. The only difference is sooner or later.」

To those words, the adventurers fell silent under Rei's pressure.

「And your goal isn't to kill that Orc, it's to release the woman held in the shack isn't it?」

「.....Ahh. That's certainly right.」

The man with the sword nodded. When looking at his face, he was one of the people in the meeting with Hobbes. He was probably the leader of this party.

「Then, I'll leave the shack to you. Evacuate them to Hobbes. As far as I could see from above, there aren't any enemies in the area. I'll deal with the Orcs here until you return.」

「Sorry, I'm relying on you.」

The 3 people bowed before heading to the small shack. While watching their backs, Rei reflexively let out a sigh.

Originally, he had planned to rescue the woman caught in the shack after the subjugation of the Orcs had been completed. However, when they saw the village burning, the 3 people judged that it would be dangerous to leave it until then. And the Orcs still had the intelligence to take group action. It would have been troublesome if they decided to take a hostage in an emergency.

With Set watching the surroundings, the men appeared from the hut after a few minutes.

There were two women with them. The woman Rei saw during the daytime was limping but still managed to walk on her feet. However, the other one was already unable to stand and was carried on the back of the man with the spear.

「So for a little while, I'll be relying on you. Come back as soon as possible.」

「Ah.」

Exchanging a few short words with the party leader, Rei and Set saw the three people head out of the village.

Legend Chapter 32

Legend Chapter 32

After Rei saw off the party of 3 that had rescued the 2 women caught in the Orc village, he stored the corpses of the Orc General he defeated and the Orc whose head Set crushed into the Misty Ring. As for the two Orcs that the other 3 adventurers had defeated previously, as he didn't want to take the Orcs that other adventurers had defeated and left them as they were. He would only take his own kills. Anyway, as the other 3 people would come back immediately, he judged that there wouldn't be a problem.

「Guru～」

Seeing flames rising in many parts of the village, Set gave a small, vigilant cry

Rei lightly patted his back, turning his eyes to the darkness and casually readying the Death Scythe.

「Bumo~!？」

An arrow was shot from the darkness and was casually cut down, an Orc Archer raised a voice of confusion.....the next moment, before he was aware, Rei was in front of him swinging down the Death Scythe, his skull was split and he died.

「Did it get separated from the rest of the Orcs?」

While thinking about this, Rei stored the corpse of the Orc Archer into the Misty Ring.

Currently, Rei and Set's location was North of the village, aside from the shack where the female humans had been captured for the Orcs breeding, there was only a small hut for Orc guards. Even though there was a guard hut, it was silent as they seemed to have been sent to the East where Axe of the Thunder God had caused a commotion. As for the shack where the women had been confined, Rei doubted that an Orc would come to embrace a woman while a night attack was occurring.....

「Did I underestimate the sexual desire of the Orcs? Or.....」

On one hand, it might have been an individual action taken by the Orc Archer. If it were a normal Orc that is, but because an Orc Archer is a high ranking species, he thought in his mind that there could be another possibility.

(Anyway, I've obtained the magic stones of the high ranking Orc Archer and Orc General. However, considering Set and the Death Scythe, I would like to obtain one more Orc General magic stone to share.....it would be best if I can find a magic stone from an Orc Mage. At the same time, there's the magic stone of the guy leading the Orcs.)

Muttering to himself, he was cautious of the surrounding sounds. Metallic clashes from swords, angry voices, curses, and explosions that could be heard from around the village. Fortunately, the Orc Archer was the only one which had taken independent action, the rest

of the Orcs had headed East, where the main battlefield was, none of them went North to where Rei was.

About 10 minutes later, the party of 3 finally came back.

「We're sorry, did we keep you waiting?」

The swordsman who was the party leader asked, Rei shook his head.

「No, you were faster than I thought. How were the captured women?」

「They've been sent to where Hobbes is.It's at these times that adventurers should be providing mental relief to the women.....it's irritating.」

TLN: He's irritated in the sense that he can't do more.

Even if you said that Hobbes was a retired adventurer, he still boasted decent strength. Therefore, Hobbes stayed back at the field headquarters during the night attack without any guards. At first, several adventurers were going to guard him, however Hobbes insisted that they should maximise their combat force as the number of Orcs was greater than expected, with that it was accepted.

「Anyway, I'll leave the Northern attack to you. Set and I will return to the sky for guerrilla attacks.」

「Ahh, thanks for saving us.」

While hearing the voice of thanks, Rei got onto Set's back.....then suddenly turned to face the leader.

「I forgot to say, the bodies of the two Orcs you defeated are over there. I've collected the Orc and Orc General that Set and I defeated, is that okay?」

At those words, he glanced at the bodies of the two Orcs and gave a small nod.

「Ah. No Problem. Are the bodies of the Orcs in the item box?」

「That is so. Then, I will be leaving. Set!」

「Gururururu~!」

Giving a sharp cry at Rei's voice, Set rose into the sky after a run up of a few steps and a flap of his wings. The 3 adventurers who saw the person and animal leave, went to the bodies of the Orcs that had fallen. Rei and Set advanced to the center of the village where more Orcs had gathered, seeking their next prey.

「The battle situation is even.....is it.」

Riding on Set, Rei directed his eyes to the ground while flying through the sky.

While a substantial part of the village was in flames, a large number of Orcs could still be seen heading East.

Because it was the place where the fighting first started, all the attention of the Orcs was gathered there.

In Rei's vision, Elk was swinging his huge battle axe cleaving through several Orcs. At the same time, a large amount of ice was shot from Min's cane, slowly accumulating damage on a large number of Orcs with the bombardment.

Rhodes defended Min. Though several Orcs attacked Min, trying to crush the long range mage first, Rhodes intercepted them with his sword, dodging and evading their attacks. Taking advantage of a missed attack, he did a quick strike, sinking the Orc into a pool of blood.

「I see. So that's a C rank adventurer. 」

Looking at the situation, Rei muttered impressed. However, his eyes turned to an area a bit away from the village immediately. Maybe intending to attack the Axe of the Thunder God from the rear, several Orcs had taken a detour from the village to sneak around to the back.

And conveniently, the Orcs were led by an Orc with a cane.

「I've finally found an Orc Mage at last. As expected of an Orc Mage, it's leading the Orcs around it.」

Even if you said that Axe of the Thunder God was an A rank party, when fighting Orcs from the front and behind.....it's clear that they would take a considerable amount of damage if they were to be hit with a surprise attack with magic. Because the person furthest back was the mage, Min, her low physical defense can be imagined.

「Set!」

「Gururu~!」

Giving a short cry at Rei's voice, Set entered his third dive.

However, as expected of the high ranking species, Orc Mage, the sound of Set's flapping wings that the Orc Archer and Orc General didn't pick up was noticed by the Orc Mage. He turned his cane to the sky and began to cast a spell.

「Ignore it, keep charging!」

「Gururu~!」

However, Rei didn't care about the Orc Mage's actions and ordered Set to charge. As for Set, with a sharp cry, he dived towards the detachment lead by the Orc Mage.

『Bumorua~!』

The Orc Mage chanted his incantation and invoked the magic. Though Rei didn't know what effect the incantation had as it was said in the Orcish language, a smile appeared on his face after a fireball the size of his head appeared in front of the Orc.

「Gururururururu~!」

Set charged while raising a courageous cry. Though the Orcs started to panic, the confusion gradually decreased after the Orc Mage gave a sharp shout and shot the fireball at Set.

The fireball that was shot went towards Set, who was diving towards the detachment at a considerable speed.....the moment it was about to hit his body, it was blocked by something and exploded in midair.

「Bumo~!?!」

The Orc Mage was surprised at the result. It was the Bracelet of Wind Manipulation that was equipped to Set's ankle, it had the ability to block a single projectile from a bow or magic spell. It's effect was exhibited. It could be said that it was a bolt from the blue for the Orc Mage.

The Orc Mage was convinced that it would have an effect, there was no way it could have been avoided at the speed Set was diving.....

「Bumooo~!」

Set's figure exceeded 2m, the Orc Mage was caught by the charge of Set's wings with the momentum of the dive and was blown 10m away, in addition, he was knocked against the ground several times like a skipping stone on water. It's neck and most of it's limbs were bent in awkward directions, it was already clear that it wasn't breathing.

And.....

『Dancing flames, dance. Light up the surroundings with your magnificent dance, burn as you dance and captivate the people.』

While chanting an incantation, around 50 human sized flames appeared. Though it was smaller than the one used in the Forest of Monsters, it was because there were less enemies.

『Dance Fire Snake!』

The moment the incantation was finished, the magic was invoked. The 50 flames moved as if they had a will of their own, crowding to the Orcs.

Confused at the unforeseen situation, they judged it was dangerous and scattered after seeing several Orc being burnt, running away in all directions. However, the flames that Rei created chased the Orcs that ran and coiled them in a scorching embrace, burning them and killing them.

「Bumoo~!?!」

「Bumomo~!?!」

Though each of them raised a scream, it wasn't possible to run from the burning embrace, after a few seconds, all the Orcs in the area were dead.

The surroundings were filled with the smell of burning flesh, Set looked at the surroundings with shimmering eyes.

It had been an hour since the night attack began. Though his stomach was probably empty.....

「Set, there's no time to eat now. You'll have to wait until the night attack ends.」
「Guru~.....」

While giving a saddened look, Set nodded quietly.

「I'll store the Orcs into the Misty Ring for now. Because I'll serve them after the fight is finished, endure it for a while.....okay?」

Then Rei heard footsteps coming closer. It seemed to be a single person running towards them.

「.....Is it a detachment of this detachment.....or the remnants of this detachment?」

For an instant, the appearance of the Orc Archer he fought in the North of the village crossed his mind and considering the possibility of remnants, he readied the Death Scythe.

However, the shadow of the figure illuminated from the flames in the village was a human rather than an Orc.

He lowered the Death Scythe while remaining cautious. Set also relaxed while watching at the same time.

Still, they weren't incautious as there was still the matter of Dark Night's Star.

And when the figure approached close enough that their face could be determined.....he recognised who it was.

「Rhodes, is it.」
「You, Rei.....is it?」
「Ah. I mean, who else could take the Griffon aside from me.」
「.....Ah, no. Though that's true.....did you kill these Orcs?」

Rhodes asked, directing his eyes to the Orcs that were lying on the ground, partially burnt and cooked.

Looking at the situation, Rei stored the bodies of the Orcs into the Misty Ring, one after the other.

And, approaching the Orc Mage that Set killed.

「Ah. Set killed the Orc Mage.」

Saying that, he stored the Orc Mage into the Misty Ring as well.

「.....You, have the strength to take care of all these Orc by yourself?No, wait. Why were the corpses burnt? Isn't your weapon that ridiculously large scythe?」

「You're the ridiculous one, making those comments.」

He placed the Death Scythe into the ground while smiling wryly.

「It certainly is my weapon. However, it's also a magic item.....at the same time, it's also a magic casting tool.」

「Magic caster? In other words.....」

「Ah. Are you used to seeing the cane Min has? It's similar to that. However, but the shape is a large scythe.」

「Then, are you a mage?」

Rei gave a small shake of his head while stroking Set's back.

「Because I can also fight in close combat, if anything, I'm a magic warrior. So, what are you doing here?」

「Magic warrior.....ah, no. When fighting with my mum and dad on the East side of the village, a large amount of flames were seen behind us. So my mum asked me to check out the situation.」

「I see. Well, it's no wonder as you have to consider the possibility of being attacked from behind with the low physical defense of a mage. In fact, these Orcs were trying to sneak to the rear.」

「.....It's seems so. So, you saw them from above and made a surprise attack on them instead.」

「.....」

Listening to Rhodes words, Rei stared at his face unintentionally.

「What.」

「Nothing, you can make a rational judgement on the spot, I'm impressed.」

「Oi, are you trying to start a fight.」

「Such words, I'll tell you about what I did later. Set!」

「Guru~」

Set gave a short cry as Rei got on his back.

「Oi!」

「We'll talk when I get back. You might also want to return to where Elk and Min are. The fight with the Orcs is still going on.」

「I know. Remember now, you're going to tell me the whole story when this fight ends! Remember! Don't die without my permission!」

While smiling at at Rhode's increasingly vehement words, Rei returned to the skies above

the village with Set.

However, he noticed something as he glanced around.

(This.....I see, it's the party Dark Night's Star. I was wondering what they were up to, they're here. Even though it's possible to go out and fight the Orcs, it's troubling if I only clean up.)

Looking at the Orc village from the sky, he could see an area where there was no fire and the adventurers and Orcs were in a stalemate.

Legend Chapter 33

Legend Chapter 33

Northwest of the Orc village. The 4 members of Dark Night's Star were fighting against the Orcs.

「Bumoo~!」

Blocking the Orc's sword with a shield, a stab was sent out, piercing the Orc's throat.

The Orc, who's throat was pierced, fell to the ground with it's neck partially severed.

「Seriously, there's no end. Al, Sunyi, it's safe!」

Swinging the sword that cut the throat of the Orc to get rid of the blood and flesh that was stuck to the tip, Seryl called out to two people nearby.

「I'm still okay.」

「No problems here either.....Sis, two Orcs ahead!」

While getting Seryl's attention, she pulled her bow back and shot an arrow.

「Bugi~!?!」

An Orc that had approached under the cover of darkness was pierced by several arrows, shot in quick succession by Sunyi.

「Anyway, the first attack was in the east, so not many Orc will come to the north west area we're in charge of. Al, you can deal with the Orc with the arrows.」

「I understand!」

Ordinary Orcs are basically not equipped with protective gear like armour. Though it's not that difficult to obtain armour, the biggest reason was the Orc's body. They had muscles with strength several times of a normal person. They also had a thick layer of fat covering them. Let alone an ordinary sword, it's difficult to pierce through the fat even if they were stabbed with a spear.

It was similar with Sunyi's arrows. At first glance, the Orc that had been struck by a large amount of arrows may look like it had been turned into a hedgehog, but the arrows had been stopped at the fat and hadn't done any fatal damage.

However, the arrows that had pierced it's body would become an obstruction to movement, making it unable to move for a moment.

「Go to hell, you fake pig!」

Finding a chance to strike, Al put his weight behind his bastard sword and hammered in a blow to the body of the Orc.

「Bumoo~」

Though the Orc tried to block the sword from hitting it, the arrows prevented it from moving and his body received a deep cut.

Rather than a cut it, it was more of a chop, the Orc that had lost the lower half of his body, fell to the ground silently, blood and entrails spilling on to the ground.

「Haa, haa, haa」

Al, who took down the Orc, stabbed his sword into the ground to support his body, he started to fix his rough breathing.

Al was originally a D rank adventurer, against the D rank monster Orc, he had the ability to fight one on his own, one way or another. However, that's merely a 1 on 1, if it was repeated battles, naturally, his physical strength would be drained.

「Sister, shouldn't we take a break?」

Sunyi saw Al's state and advised Seryl, Seryl knit her eyebrows and quickly pierced the head of the remaining Orc.

Though her breathing rate had gone up, she still had strength to spare, showing the difference in ability between the C rank Seryl and the D rank Al.

「Yeah. Al's having a little difficulty.....even then, it's hard to find that rookie among the crowd of Orcs. Any reports from Murgas?」

Sunyi shook her head at Seryl's words.

Murgas was literally running around the village at this time, looking for the appearance of Rei. Though Murgas was a coward, with Seryl's threats, Al's soothing and Sunyi's persuasion, he agreed to do it this once, in other words, finding Rei's mobile unit in the Orc village once the night attack started, if things went well, the only thing they had to do was to steal the item box. But they couldn't launch a surprise attack, they could only move when they knew where Rei was, Seryl thought. Because of that, they were unwillingly fighting Orcs here.

After all, it should have been much easier as the main combat force was focused on the East of the village, in the opposite direction of where they were. And yet, they were attacked by a considerable number of Orcs for some reason. Because of that, they had their hands full with the situation.

In fact, there was a problem with the party composition of Dark Star. Though they were originally a 4 person party, without Murgas, the thief, they only had 3 people. Two of them were women. Seryl was in her 30's and Sunyi was in her 20's, they could be said to be at a woman's prime. Naturally, they stimulated the sexual desire of the Orcs that saw their appearance. After all, since the village was established, they only had two human women for breeding, which they encountered while moving.

As a result, several Orcs went against the order of the high ranking species and attacked Dark Night's Star. Other Orcs who found the friends fighting Dark Night's Star also followed their sexual desires.....leading to the current situation.

「It can't be helped. We'll hide from the Orcs in that ragged hut. Al should fix his breathing.」

「Haa, haa, haa.I-I'm sorry.」

「Look, seriously. It's because you have so much trouble with things like Orcs that you're still a D rank.」

Seryl covered Al, who was dragging his feet, to an Orc building which hadn't caught fire. Sunyi followed at the rear, keeping watch of the surroundings. And at last, the three people were able to take a break.

「Really, those Orcs are really bothersome aren't they. If only they didn't come here in such large numbers, this time we might be able to find that rookie.」

「Big sis, shouldn't we postpone taking the item box for now and focus on the Orc subjugation quest?」

Al, who finally fixed his breath, called out to Seryl, however, he was met with scowling eyes.

「Oh, Al. Do you have a complaint with what I'm doing?」

「No, but why not? What if in the off chance we're caught by an Orc halfway through fighting?」

「Hmph, we'll escape straight to the Imperial Capital after stealing the item box. I don't care what happens to the city of Gimuru.」

At this time, ignoring Al, Seryl was also quite fatigued. She had fought Orcs with eyes looking at her with sexual desire for too long. Even if she was a C rank adventurer, the mental fatigue had piled up. Because of that, she had carelessly revealed her true intentions.

「Big sis, now what?」

Al asked Seryl in a slightly low voice.

「Ah? What I said about the city of Gimuru? I meant what I said. Why would you even care about the city of Gimuru when we get to the Imperial Capital after this is done? I said this before, but knights from the Imperial Capital will come if this subjugation force is defeated. Though there might be some damage, it will be resolved somehow.」

「.....Certainly, but that might not be so.....」

As Al was starting to become more vehement, Sunyi, who was watching from the table, gave a short cry.

「Big sis, Murgas is back.」

「Really! Right, keep watch Sunyi. I want to hear the news when Murgas comes in. Al, the talk with you will be postponed. Obey my orders for now.」

「.....Ah.」

Al gave a reluctant nod as Murgas simultaneously entered the building.

「Big sis, sorry to keep you waiting.」

「Seriously, I've been waiting a while. So, have you found the rookie?」

「Yes, somehow. As he's a guerrilla unit, he comes down to fight the Orcs. He defeated some Orcs which were sneaking round to the rear of Axe of the Thunder God in the East a little while ago. Though the group was lead by an Orc Mage, it was blown away by the Griffon.」

Seryl frowned her eyebrows at those words. Because Seryl's group was aiming for the item box, naturally, they wanted Rei in the same group as them. This was because the surprise attack could then be carried out at any time. However, because they had said that the Griffon couldn't be relied on during the previous night, Rei ended up becoming a mobile unit.

.....Moreover, several other adventurer parties had wanted Rei to be a mobile unit while a member that had fed Set, made a direct appeal to Hobbes for Rei to work with them

「So, is the rookie still at the East, behind Axe of the Thunder God?」

If that was so, it would be difficult to attack, but as Seryl was thinking so, Murgas gave an unexpected reply.

「About that, he seems to be tired out from the continuous fighting and came down to take a break where the fire hasn't spread. I thought that we maybe able to attack, which is why I returned.」

「.....Heh. In a place that the fire hasn't spread. By the way, are there any Orcs or subjugation force members in the vicinity?」

「There's no problem there. There are no subjugation force members close to the rookie and I only saw a few Orcs on the way back.」

「Then, how about the Griffon?」

After all, the most difficult thing to deal with when attacking Rei was the Griffon. Even if the members of Dark Night's Star, including herself, went all out, Seryl didn't feel that there was even the smallest chance of beating the Griffon in a fight.

However, the answer from Murgas was also unexpected.

「About that, it seems he let the Griffon return to the sky as a guerrilla unit. That's why I returned now.」

「.....I see, it surely is a clear once in a lifetime chance. While he's taking a break, he leaves the guerrilla attacks to the Griffon to keep acquiring achievements. He's an idiot. He'll lose his life from being too greedy.」

TL Note: -_-

Grinning, a smile floated onto her face as she thought about managing her future. She quickly settled down and spoke up.

「Listen up, first, we'll all attack the rookie. However, Sunyi will strike preemptively with

arrows. Though if possible, aim for the head to kill him instantly, I don't mind if you hit the body or limbs either.」

「Big sis, are you making light of my weapon? The rookie only just registered with the guild, I'll take him out in one shot.」

While Sunyi, who was standing at the entrance, puffed up her cheeks to complain, Seryl gave a small shake of her head.

「You seem to have forgotten, the rookie has the ability to defeat the Claws of the Hawk by himself. Being careless is a mistake.」

「.....I understand.」

「Good girl. So, when we confirm Sunyi has hit with the arrow, we all dash in and attack. Kill him there if possible. If it takes some time, Hobbes will know we've moved.」

「So, the Imperial Capital after that?」

「Ah. Because the carriages and warhorses are gathered with Hobbes, if possible, Murgas and Sunyi will grab four warhorses without being noticed. At the very least we need 2. Warhorses won't collapse on the way and we can run full speed to the capital after that. Well, if we can take a warhorse then we won't have to worry about pursuers for a while, though we'll likely have to substitute horses in an emergency.....indeed, it will be impossible for Hobbes to not miss us.」

「Though we'll be able to get to the Imperial Capital in a few days, what about food?」

「There's enough in the item box. If there's no food in it, we can sell off items in it in villages along the way and buy food with the money.」

「Sister, even if we can get to the Imperial Capital, do we have the connections to sell off the item box?」

To Sunyi's voice, which came from the entrance, Seryl nodded with a smile.

「Ah. I was previously in the care of of a person in the city of Gimuru who was in an organization related to that. Naturally, I know his address.」

「Right, big sis. Then we'll carry out the surprise attack on the rook before he finishes his break.」

「Ah. Murgas, we'll need you to guide us. As for Al and Sunyi, don't get found by the Orcs.」

Thus, Dark Night's Star's once in a lifetime gamble was started this night.

Moreover, it was a gamble that Seryl had recognised as already won.

In this case, if Murgas had told Seryl there was a possibility he could use magic, the result of Dark Night's Star's attack might have been different. However, Murgas didn't have any information that Rei could use magic at all, he hardly knew the ecology of a Griffon either and thought that it might have been the peculiar ability of the Griffon to burn all the Orcs except the Orc Mage.

There was a place in the Orc village with a single person. Rei took a break at a place where the fire hadn't spread.Even if was barely, he disguised himself to look as if he was taking a break. That was correct.

The figure of Set couldn't been seen nearby either. Though the purpose was to trap Dark Night's Star, who were aiming for him, he couldn't neglect the guerrilla attacks for the other fights occurring in the Orc settlement.

(In addition, I can't overlook the chance to make contributions to the guild.)

Rei murmured in his mind. Speaking only in this regard, Seryl's thoughts were correct.

And.....

(They've finally appeared)

He had a chiri~ chiri~ feeling. It was the same feeling he had when fighting the Queen Ant and Goblin rare, however, the monsters gave a much purer feeling, the feeling he had right now was clouded with greed. That is.....blood lust.

Subtly putting strength into the Death Scythe he was holding, he made his preparations inside the Dragon Robe so to not be seen and readied himself to fight back at any time.

Though they had moved so as to not be found by Rei, his five senses exceeded that of an ordinary person and could hear the sounds of Dark Night's Star encircling him, with his 6th sense, he could also roughly feel the blood lust.

And he heard a kiri~ kiri~ sound, the sound of a bow drawn to its full extent.

(I see. It's a preemptive strike with the bow. Then.....)

Thinking out a plan to deal with the fools attacking him.....the next moment, the arrow was fired!

Legend Chapter 34

Legend Chapter 34

At the back of the Orc hut, they were attacking a man, who seemed to be taking a break, without alarming him. Sunyi drew her bow to the fullest while aiming at the man.

(In the end, his ability is only to tame a Griffon. Though there's a bow aimed at him, he can't even feel the blood lust. Really, Al worries too much.)

Completing her preparations to shoot at any time, she turned her eyes to Seryl, who was on the roof of the building opposite.

Catching Sunyi's glance, Seryl gave a small nod. Al and Murgas signaled that they were ready as well.

(Rookie-chan, you can only have a grudge against yourself for owning a rare magic item you don't deserve. We'll sell off the item box to provide for our living.....right!)

Holding her breath, she took aim and released the arrow from her hands, the arrow shot from the bow cut through the air, the next moment it tore towards the target who seemed to be resting. As it hit the body, Rei fell to the ground without a sound.

「Right, everyone attack!」

Seryl's voice echoed at the same time. At that voice, Al and Murgas jumped out from the darkness with their bastard sword and dagger. Seryl also jumped from the roof, casually, holding a long sword and shield.

While checking the states of her three companions, Sunyi drew her bow again in case of an unforeseen event.

The moment the arrow aimed at him a distance away was fired, Rei's eyes captured the arrow.

Though he thought of evading it or cutting it down with the Death Scythe if it was aimed for his head, the arrow was targeted at his body. It was probably aimed there as they judged it would be easier to target. Though the arrow shot at his right side was blocked by the Dragon Robe, he pretended to fall to the ground.

The next moment, he heard Seryl's voice from the top of the opposite building as well as the sounds of two more people. Including Seryl, the footsteps of 3 people approached him.

(According to the information from Hobbes and Elk, Dark Night's Star should be a party of 4. An archer, 2 warriors and a thief. In this case, the archer is the most troublesome as it's a long range attacker, fortunately, it doesn't have enough power to pierce the Dragon Robe. The next most troublesome would be the thief as he can hide in the dark.

While listening to the three footsteps coming closer to him, he looked for the thief's

position.

There was a slight difference in footsteps between a warrior and thief due to the weight of the equipment they carried. He listened.

(Left, is it?)

Seryl was at the front. Judging from the foot steps and speed, the other warrior of Dark Night's Star who wore heavier equipment, Al, was at the right. He firmly gripped the Death Scythe that he had held onto as he had fallen.

Naturally, there was a difference in speed between a warrior and a thief, the first to reach him was Murgas who wore light armour, the thief of Dark Night's Star.

「Murgas, how is it? Was he killed neatly with Sunyi's arrow?」

Seryl's voice was a bit further away. Rei heard the footsteps near slowly.

「Wait a moment big sis. I'll check now.」

Hehe, he grinned and smiled in his heart as he heard the footsteps approach.

Originally, the best way to check if the other party was alive or dead would be to throw a stone or dagger at it to see the reaction. In fact, if they did throw a stone or dagger at his head, he wouldn't be able to counterattack immediately, but maybe Murgas didn't have a spare weapon, or maybe he found it too troublesome, he just approached Rei cautiously. And.....

(Now!)

Rei judged that Murgas had entered his attack range and acted quickly. He grasped the Death Scythe that had fallen to the ground when he fell and made a sweeping attack. Because he had attacked without putting in any magic power, his attack wasn't anticipated. The Death Scythe cut through the flesh with ease and the bone with a bit of pressure, cutting off both of Murgas's ankles.

「.....Eh? Ah, ah, ah.....Gyaaaaaaaaa~! Ah, my legs, my feet are, aaahh~!」

For an instant, he couldn't believe he was attacked. Speaking while seemingly preoccupied, Murgas collapsed to the ground as he couldn't stand without both ankles. He screamed while lying on the ground as the intense pain hit him a few seconds after the attack.

「Tch, he's still alive. Al, let's go. This is his final resistance anyway. Sunyi, cover us with your bow!」

Seryl had thought that the only magic item Rei had was the item box, Misty Ring. The Dragon Robe that he usually wore, even if you searched the entire Mireana Kingdom.....no, not even the entirety of Elgin would have a magic item of this high quality, therefore, she

thought that his attack on Murgas was a desperate attack of the verge on death after receiving a mortal wound from Sunyi's arrow.

However, maybe that wasn't unreasonable. After all, the Dragon Robe was made by Zepairu's organization, in other words, it's concealment effect was given by the greatest Alchemist of that time, Esta Nord. Others could not see its true value. At the frontier, it would be an impossible event for a rank C adventurer to see through it.

TLN: Okay, so it turns out the concealment effect of the Dragon Robe is to hide the fact that it's a magic item. Note also appended to when it was first described.

While thinking of this in a corner of his mind, Rei sprung up, using the momentum from the attack that cut Murgas' ankles. He went closer to Murgas who was rolling on the ground crying unsightly and struck with the Death Scythe in a scooping motion, cutting him in two.

「Gah~!」

He raised a small scream as his internal organs such as his stomach and intestines spilled onto the ground, the light faded from Murgas' eyes. Seeing the ankles, still in their shoes further ahead, a wry smile floated onto his face for a moment.

TLN: Well, I didn't expect Rei to have a brutal streak.

(I don't have any particular guilt even though I killed a person, it seems. Well, I'm thankful given the present situation.)

「Murgas!? Tch, he's still okay even though the arrows hit! Al, we'll do it at once!」

「Big sis!? We should retreat!」

「Don't say stupid things! It has already begun. Since it's become like this, we have to kill the rookie, if that guy gets away, the guild will give us a bounty. Be prepared for that!」

「.....Shit, I understand!」

Matching their timing, the two people swung their swords from the left and right. Rei judged that Seryl, the leader of Dark Star, was more formidable and decided to aim for Al first to decrease the number of enemies. With the handle of the Death Scythe, he swept up some of Murgas' organs which were scattered around and flicked them at Al.

「Tch!」

Al was sweeping his bastard sword from the side at that moment but was blinded by Murgas' organs coming at his face and evaded. However.....

「Fool! You're careless!」

Seryl's voice sounded through the area, but it was too late. For a bastard sword, its high power lay with its weight, However, at the same time, it was difficult to maneuver. For example, as when someone got close, as Rei did now.

As Al swung the bastard sword, he suddenly felt a wind and turned his eyes, the small figure of Rei and his robe was no longer at where he was before.

「Al, your chest!」

Seryl set her long sword towards Al while shouting, but it was too late. The huge scythe like the scythe of the Grim Reaper was about to swing down and take Al's life.

(Shit, big sis won't make it in time. My sword isn't enough.....this, ending up in a place like this!)

Because of the possibility of his own death approaching him, Al's head spun, he asked himself about the meaning of the life he had lived, regretting being cajoled by Seryl into attacking Rei.....

「Fool, don't give up!」

The moment he heard that voice, he returned to reality.

「.....What?」

It was strange, he was on the verge of dying. Yet why was he still alive? While doubting, what entered his vision were a few arrows stuck in the ground in the area where Rei and his large scythe were just before.

The moment he saw the arrows and heard the shout of 'don't give up', he realised it was Sunyi.

「Are you okay?」

The figure of Seryl appeared nearby, her sword set up to restrain Rei. Checking his surroundings, he finally realised he was still alive.

「Big sis, he's strong. It seems the Griffon isn't with him just for show.」

「It looks like it. Tch, isn't that rookie rank G? Who would think that he's so strong.」

While listening to the exchange of the 2, a smile floated onto Rei's face.

「I'm strong, is it? That's right. Although it's not much, I take pride that I have the strength to subdue a C rank monster.」

While swinging the Death Scythe, with a hyun~ hyun~ sound, at the two people before his eyes, he didn't forget to check the state of the archer, Sunyi.

Being hit by an arrow before was just part of his plan. Being able to avoid the attack demonstrated that Rei's body was close to a monster, if it were a normal person, the arrows would have hit his body without fail.

(I was surprised about that, that man called Al was clearly a decoy. When I swung the Death Scythe, I was attacked the moment I attacked. Still, he responded when she shouted out not

to give up.I see. Trust, is it?)

After Rei participated in the subjugation quest, he was convinced that Dark Night's Star was a party made up of thugs. However, though thugs may behave as so, there was still trust between them, he understood this for the first time.

(Still, I can't be killed quietly. Their deaths were decided when the surprise attack began.)

Al, who somehow narrowly avoided death, was covered in cold sweat as he glanced at Rei. At the same time, Seryl, who was next to him, was in a similar situation. Sunyi pulled back her bow to shoot her arrows at Rei, given a chance.

He held the middle of the Death Scythe with his hands and swung it with a hyun~ hyun~ sound to restrain the enemy, he worked out a strategy against Dark Star while looking like a dance performance.

(In this case, the most troublesome aren't the two people who can fight in close combat, it's the woman called Sunyi who can support from long range.)

While brandishing the Death Scythe, Rei turned his gaze to Sunyi. On the top of the roof of an Orc house, attacks normally wouldn't reach. Even if he used fire magic, the two people, Seryl and Al, wouldn't give him a chance to say the incantation. So, there was no way to attack Sunyi. If he were a normal person..... But, Rei wasn't someone you could call a normal person.

Using the centrifugal force from swinging the Death Scythe, he scooped out the dirt and stones on the ground and and flung them at the people in front of him with the handle, he then made a long jump backwards.

The next moment, he invoked the Shoes of Sleipnir while seeing arrows hit the position he was at just before.

Rei jumped to the highest point and used the Shoes of Sleipnir to step further into the air before falling.

At that moment, a few arrows flew towards Rei's feet as he began to fall. If it weren't for the Shoe of Sleipnir that let him step on the air, perhaps several of the arrows would have hit him. However, the magic item Shoes of Sleipnir overturned Sunyi's calculations.

Sunyi saw her attack had missed and tried to to draw an arrow for her bow from her quiver in a hurry.....

「That's a shame.」

Rei was already in front of Sunyi's eyes, swinging the Death Scythe.

「-!？」

Though Sunyi tried to shout something, the magic boosted Death Scythe was swung down before the words left her mouth. The huge blade cut through Sunyi diagonally from shoulder down.....the next second, her body slid down, internal organs and blood scattering onto the roof.

『Sunyi!?!』

Though Seryl and Al, who were watching, shouted out Sunyi's name, the light had already faded from Sunyi's eyes.

「You! How dare you do that to Sunyi!」

Though Al raised a vehement shout, Rei just stared back at Al and Seryl with cold eyes.

「What, so it's acceptable for you to kill me but not okay for me to kill you? Is the fact that the person you try to kill is fighting back something bad? Or are you going to say you are the only people with the right to kill me?」

「Shut up! Get down from there now! I'll cut you down with my sword like you did to Murgas and Sunyi!」

Although Al burst out with an angry voice, Rei had no intention of coming down.

「What, even if you can take out a thief and archer, it's too hard to fight someone the same as you in close combat? If you're a man, come down and fight fairly!」

「Kuku~. Fair and square, hey. Attacking someone by surprise and 4 against 1, I can't help but laugh.....no, talent as adventurers aside, you have talent as comedians, you guys.」

「Don't joke around!」

「I'll stop, incidentally, joke asides, let me correct your joke. I'm not a warrior. It suffices to say.....I'm a 『Magic Warrior』」

「.....What?」

Ignoring Al, who unintentionally asked again in a defiant tone, Rei started an incantation.

『Flame, thou exists in my domain only and cannot in other domains. My magic power in my domain in exchange for your short life, sublimate your life for a moment.』

At the same time Rei started his incantation, a scarlet line of magic power drew and enclosed the place Al and Seryl were.

「Tch!」

Perceiving the danger of the line, Seryl escaped from the magic lines by jumping backwards. However, Al, who's rank was lower than Seryl, didn't have that judgement. No, maybe he knew but seeing his companions killed made the blood rush to his head and his crisis perception ability fell.

If had his usual carefulness, he might have felt the overwhelming presence of death approaching. However, that would be another story. Al was already surrounded by the magic

lines, his fate decided.

『Dancing Wild Flame』

The incantation was completed and the magic activated. A bright, translucent, red dome covered the marked area the crimson line cut through. Al's cheeks cramped when he finally realised he was in a dangerous place.....a myriad of lizards appeared inside the crimson dome. So many that it was difficult to count, the next moment, the lizards exploded simultaneously, turning into fire. One of them exploded, turning into flames, similarly, the lizards touched by the flame exploded the same way.....so the number of flames and explosions increased like a chain reaction, the last one exploded, turning into flames and rampaging inside the dome, the scorching flame was so dazzling you couldn't open your eyes. Al was instantly burned without being able to say a word.

Legend Chapter 35

Legend Chapter 35

The translucent dome that had captured Al. Though the scorching flames rampaged inside, there wasn't any heat outside the dome. This was the magic Rei created with his own magic power to prevent the flame from spreading outside, the raging flames inside the dome couldn't influence any of the surroundings.

「.....You, what on earth.....」

She remembered how Al was burnt to ashes in a moment inside the translucent dome. In that state, Seryl reflexively muttered.

Rei replied with a faint smile on his face.

「Well, as you said, there's no mistake, I'm a G rank adventurer who just registered with the guild.」

While replying with a mutter to Seryl's words to herself, he clicked his fingers with a pachin~ sound. The next moment, the flames that had been burning brightly in the dome disappeared as if it were an illusion. As the flames all vanished, the dome faded away as well.

The only remains were the burnt, scorched ground and the half melted bastard sword that Al had used. Al's body and the leather armour he had equipped was completely burnt up, not even ashes remained.

His only reprieve was that the scorching flames that rampaged in the dome didn't let him feel the fear or pain of death, he was burnt to death instantly. Perhaps Al didn't even realise it as there wasn't any pain as he died.

「D-do.....don't joke with me! A G rank adventurer burning someone to death in an instant, moreover, how can you use such a strong magic that doesn't affect the surroundings!」

Seeing Al's death, Seryl finally understood that the person staring at her from the rooftop with a cold gaze was more than just a G rank adventurer.

The price was the death of three of her companions, the only member of Dark Night's Star left was Seryl.

「.....I'll say this one thing because there seems to be a misunderstanding. I definitely am a G rank adventurer who just registered with the guild. That is correct. However, the magic and skills I learnt before registering with the guild don't just disappear. Your mistake was thinking that I, a rookie who just registered with the guild, had no experience in combat and magic. Information about me should have traveled around in various ways, in the end you didn't take it seriously because I was a rookie who just registered with the guild?」

Even Seryl knew that he had defeated the D rank party Claws of the Hawk by himself, she also knew that the person in front of her was followed by a Griffon, an A rank monster.

Nevertheless, she had baseless confidence that she would be handle it herself. That fatal mistake had resulted in the death of all members of Dark Night's Star except herself.

「Shit, even if you say that, so what!」

Seryl spat out while giving a sharp glare at Rei and clenching her teeth. However, Rei ignored her words and jumped with a ton~ sound from the roof to the ground.

When he landed on the ground, he didn't make a sound, it was something that couldn't be said a G rank adventurer could do.

「By the way, I'm not nice enough to let you die in peace.」

While brandishing the Death Scythe with a hyun~ hyun~ sound, he kept his eyes fixed on Seryl.

(Since she knows the power of my magic, if I try to use it again, she won't hesitate to run away. If possible, I wanted to finish her and the man named Al in one blow before.....well, even if she's corrupt, she's still a C rank adventurer.

Rei watched Seryl with his eyes while waiting for a chance to finish her off.

While Seryl understood that Rei was slowly waiting for a chance to kill her, she had seen Rei's power and instead of trying to run away again and showing her back, she gradually retreated.

However, naturally, she couldn't keep evading like that forever, before long, Seryl's back hit a building that seemed to be an Orc's house.

Rei saw that and started to speak while smiling.

「Now then, I suppose that's enough time. I have to cover the other parties that are participating in the night attack. I have to finish this soon.....you don't mind?」

Suddenly stopping the Death Scythe he had been swinging around, he pointed the tip at Seryl and asked.

「.....Looking at my current situation, it certainly would be difficult for me to defeat you. But you know, I can't fall silent just because of this. Now that it's come down to this, I have to get through no matter what!」

Maybe she thought other adventurers would come if she delayed long enough, she gave a shout and steeled herself before throwing the shield in her left hand at Rei's face.

「Is her intention to blind me?」

Muttering about the trivial matter, Rei poured magic power into the Death Scythe and struck out. The Death Scythe, which had its sharpness increased by magic, split the shield that Seryl had thrown in two without any resistance.

However, as for Seryl, seeing Murgas and Sunyi's last moments, she knew the shield had no use and threw it away. Still, having done that, she felt that it was good if she could blind Rei for a moment. The reason it was good was because she wanted to strike Rei with an attack.

If she had ran the moment the shield had blinded him, she might have gotten away if she was lucky. However, she judged that it was too difficult and decide to wound him so that he couldn't chase, it was an attack that held Seryl's fate.

「Haaaaatsu~!」

Raising a shout, she aimed for the body. The head was a small target and it was likely she would be hit by the scythe if she aimed at an arm as she couldn't cut off both arms at the same time. With that, the body was left. If it went well, she could land a serious injury, it would then become difficult to chase after her on foot. And it was the body that Seryl targeted. Though there was also a possibility of damaging his internals if it went well, the biggest reason was the size of the target. Thinking of Rei's movements, she judged that even if she aimed at his feet, he would probably evade it. As for the center of the body, it was the hardest place to evade an attack.

With that, she bet everything on this single blow, even a cornered rat would bite a cat. The attack shot at Rei with an unexpected speed. Moreover, the attack was what Seryl was most skilled at, a piercing attack.

When the shield was cut in two by the Death Scythe, just before Seryl's thrust pierced through Rei's body.....

「It is regrettable.」

However, even with Seryl's attack which carried her body and soul, it was still an attack at the level Rei could respond too in a moment.

While using the handle of the Death Scythe to cut the shield, against the sword at his belly.....he used the blade cut the sword aimed at him.

Seryl's attack on Rei carried all her strength. If you thought about it normally, Seryl would have won with that attack, but in this case, the difference in pure physical strength was displayed clearly.

Kin~! The sharp screech of metal was heard, Seryl's blade was cut in half and flew through the air with a kurukuru~ sound before stabbing into the ground.

Seryl's thrust, now missing more than half the blade, naturally didn't reach Rei.

「T-this is stupid.....that was my best attack!? And so easily.....」

「.....It was a shame. Our physical ability seems to be different.」

He quietly muttered, he held the Death Scythe in a position to his upper right after hitting the long sword from the lower left. His weapon was raised in the reverse Kesagiri position.

TLN: Kesagiri is the 5th kata of the Japanese laido and is a diagonal slash from the shoulder down.

When Rei attacked, he had noticed the signs in an instant. Seryl stared in surprise at her long sword for a moment before jumping back, but she was a bit too slow. The blade of the Death Scythe cut diagonally through the raised sword and into Seryl from the reverse Kesagiri position. Still, she wasn't cut in two due to her reflexive evasion.

「Gueh!」

While raising a groan of pain, Seryl fell to one knee. Because it was a deep wound from the left shoulder to her right waist, even if she pressed her hands against it, she couldn't suppress the wound. While seeing a stream of blood flowing to the ground, Rei held up the Death Scythe to give Seryl the final blow.

「No.....ugh.....can't fail!」

While groaning, she grabbed the soil at her feet.....no, the mud which was formed from her blood, and scattered it at Rei's face.

However, Rei didn't dodge it or block it with his robe, instead, he struck the air with the Death Scythe.

With a boom, the sound echoed into the surroundings. At the same time, the mud made from blood scattered around the area.

「A futile struggle.....no, I see.」

Though he was going to say something to Seryl, who had thrown the mud at him, seeing her appearance, he understood Seryl's aim immediately. From the bag at her waist, she had taken out a potion that Hobbes had distributed before the night attack and was pouring it on her wound.

Her leather armour had been torn as well as her body from the blow of the Death Scythe, Rei's eyes were able to confirm that the wound was quickly healing from the potion's effect.

「Hah, do you not feel any excitement looking at the bare skin of a woman.」

While using her hand to hide her two hills that appeared so she could heal her wound, Seryl muttered viciously. However, she immediately removed her hand that was hiding her skin, showing off her near half naked body.

「Hey, how about it? Say if you let me go, you can do whatever you want with my body, would you like to make a deal?」

Seryl looked at Rei with flattering eyes. To begin with, she had good features, being half naked and with her sex appeal, if a man didn't know who she was, they would jump at her.

「.....Even though I killed 3 of your companions?」

He looked at her eyes while saying those words. Seryl shook her head.

「Those guys knew that the occupation of an adventurer came with danger. If they died here, it means that that was their caliber.」

「I see.」

Rei gave a small mutter to Seryl's words. Using her weight, she tried to push her bare chest against Rei but.....

「Those guys would be turning in their graves.」

Because Rei dodged quickly, Seryl, who tried to lean against his body, tripped on her feet and fell to the ground.

「Wait a moment, what are you doing.....ah.....eeh.」

As she fell to the ground like a brick, she scowled at Rei's face. However, the figure of Rei wearing his robe and his Death Scythe couldn't be seen.

「Hey, why are you doing this. Didn't you hear me say I'll exchange my body for letting me go!」

「Though you certainly said so, I don't recall ever accepting it.」

While muttering, the appearances of Al and Sunyi, who had partied with this woman, appeared in his mind.

The woman with the bow had trusted her companion and used him as a decoy.

After killing the woman, the man still fought back despite understanding that Rei was overwhelmingly stronger than him.

Both weren't strong opponents for Rei. Because they were at the same level as the Claws of the Hawk whom he had crushed as he arrived in Gimuru, that was a matter of course.

However, their attitudes were still something to be looked at. On the other hand.....

He glanced at Seryl who was looking at him with pleading eyes. What was there was surely the beautiful face and expression of a mature woman. However, Rei could see through to the ugly character packed inside, the value he could find in that face was not much different to that of an Orc's face.

「Even if I held you, a woman like you is too unpleasant to accept. There isn't any value to it even if you paid me.」

「What!」

Though she was getting older, Seryl still had confidence in her own looks. Because of that, hearing that he didn't want to hold her even if he was paid, the blood rushed to her head.

「Hey you! Normally I'm not a woman that wouldn't pay attention to a G rank rookie like you! It.....」

「That's good enough, shut up.」

Rei judged that it was meaningless to hear any more of her boasting or pleading for life and casually lifted the Death Scythe.

「Hii~!」

While screaming, the last thing Seryl saw was the huge blade swinging down to behead her.

「Even if you say the frontier city gathers adventurers, in the end, it's a hopeless jumble of good and bad.」

Cutting her head from her neck, he looked down at the corpse of Seryl which was spilling blood as he muttered.

There wasn't a sense of guilt or fear at killing a person in his expression, however, he knit his eyebrows unpleasantly at the corpse.

「Gururu~」

To Rei who was in that state, Set appeared from the darkness and rubbed his head against Rei to comfort him.

「Ah, that's right. Because there are adventurers like Axe of the Thunder God, I can't just leave the others.」

While scratching Set's head with a kori~ kori~ sound, he shook his head as smoothed the feathers.

「Well, Set. I think it's time to return to our job. I wonder if the leader of the Orcs has appeared yet.」

「Guru~」

Glancing at Set who affirmed Rei's question with a cry, he sat astride Set's back which he had become accustomed to.

「Well, first we'll try to look for one more Orc Mage and Orc General while supporting the other parties. We already have 6 Orc Archers so we don't need any more.....well, if we find any, we'll still hunt them.」

「Gurururururu~!」

Giving a sharp cry into the surroundings, Set ran towards the night sky after taking a run up of a few steps.

1 man and 1 animal rose up into the cloudless, moonlit sky.

Legend Chapter 36

Legend Chapter 36

As the moonlight shone on the burning village, Rei and Set looked at the ground from the sky.

As the battle in the east continued as planned, as expected, the number of Orcs was reduced. And as several parties attacked the Orcs, fighting Axe of the Thunder God, from behind, the Orcs were caught in a pincer attack between Axe of the Thunder God and the other parties.

「It seems the pincer attack from several parties is same strength as Axe of the Thunder God. They certainly can be called an A rank party.」

「Guru~」

Several hours had passed since the night attack began, but sounds of battle could still be heard from the east, held by Axe of the Thunder God.

As expected Min's magic power had started to deplete and the intervals between magic casts grown longer. Still, ice arrows and fireballs kept falling without a break, magic such as Lightning Rain and Gusty Wind could also be seen cast.

「Though the number of Orcs has been significantly reduced, why hasn't the leader of the Orcs come out?」

Rei and Set alone had taken out 10 Orcs. Though he didn't know how many the other parties had defeated, there was no doubt that it was a considerable number. Of course, Axe of the Thunder God, who had been fighting continuously since the start of the night attack, had the most kills out of the subjugation force, especially Elk.

In fact, judging roughly from the sky, the number of Orcs gathered at the east of the village was already less than 50. No matter how you looked at it, it was abnormal that the leader of the Orcs still hadn't come out.

Feeling some doubt at that question and searching the ground while flying over the village on Set, his eyes caught a group moving west under the cover of darkness instead of the east.

If it were a normal human, it would have been impossible to see things moving under the cover of darkness. On the other hand, it might have been a different story if it were a race with good night vision.

Though the night's darkness had weakened due to the flames burning the village and the moonlight, if you chose certain places, it was still possible to hide while moving. However, the reason the group caught his eyes was because as the subjugation force invaded from every direction, they were leaving the village. Several visible figures of adventurers that were part of the Orc subjugation force could also be seen nearby.

Basically, all the parties distributed to the eight locations had started their invasion almost

at the same time as Axe of the Thunder God. In that situation, from what Rei saw from the sky, the group moving to the west was extremely unnatural.

As the Orcs were continuously reduced by the subjugation force, a group was hiding under the darkness and moving opposite to the east, where the fiercest battle was happening. The group in the west was taking a different action. The moment the thoughts gathered in Rei's head, he directed a sharp gaze to the ground while smiling ferociously.

「Indeed, this Orc village is already useless. The number of Orcs is also dropping at an increasing rate, the village will burn itself out before long. However, I can't accept Orcs running away for even a moment. Set!」

「Gururu~!」

To Rei's voice, Set dived sharply to the ground while raising a brave cry. But rather than the Orc group that was running away from the Orc village.....he aimed in front of the western adventurer group.

With the heat from the burning village, the gust from Set as he landed on the ground could be described as a true tropical night wind.

「Uwaa~!」

Naturally, the adventurers who saw Set suddenly appear in front of them scattered and readied their weapons while raising voices of surprise.....however, they put down their weapons after seeing that they was familiar faces from the subjugation force, the G rank adventurer Rei and the Griffon, Set.

「Hey, don't surprise us like that.」

The voice that came over was from a female warrior in her mid twenties.....no, it was a female fencer. Holding a sword that shone sharply in her hand, she wore leather armour that didn't inhibit her movement. Next to her, was a man aged in his mid forties holding a cane and wearing a robe. At the back, a young girl in her teens lowered her bow while giving a sigh of relief, it was a girl with short hair who looked to be a little older than Rei. She was also wearing leather armour that didn't inhibit movement.

With the female fencer as the leader and the middle aged mage, who were both rank C, and the girl holding the bow, who was rank D, they made up the party Scorching Wind.

「Ah, are you doing well Set-chan?」

The female fencer Milein stroked Set's head. The male mage, Sulunin, spat out a sigh while seeing that and called out to Rei.

「So, why are you here? If I'm not wrong, your job is a mobile attack unit. As you can see, we're on our way moving to the center of the village now, there's no battle here.」

「Well, there were a few fights before you came.」

To Sulunin's words, the archer Excel cut in, poking fun.

Rei saw the three people and got off Set before looking around.

「That's a relief.....though it's a funny story, there is a group of Orcs coming just ahead.」

「Impossible. Surely all the Orcs have gathered in the east. There's no way they would come here.」

Milein spoke while stroking Set's back.

Though Set would usually give a joyful cry in these circumstances, as expected, Set only stared into the darkness as the enemy was nearby.

「I know right. In fact, when looking from above, most of the Orcs are fight with Axe of the Thunder God in the east, all the other parties have attacked from behind as part of the strategy.」

「Then, why are there Orcs here?」

「You don't know? The Orcs are doing their best to deal with the night attack and the pincer attack between Axe of the Thunder God and the other parties. Incidentally, Set and I have also killed several high ranking species. In other words.....」

He stopped his words there. However, Sulunin understood what Rei wanted to say and immediately looked at Set with with a serious gaze.

「The individual leading the Orcs realised that there's no chance of winning and is running away?」

「Eh!? You're talking about the Orc leader, the boss, right? Yet it's escaping and abandoning it's subordinates and companions?」

At the same time as Excel's surprised voice echoed into the surroundings, Rei struck out sharply with the Death Scythe.

With a kin~ sound, an arrow was cut in two and fell to the ground.

「-!? Enemy attack!」

The moment they saw it, Milein gave a sharp shout and Sulunin and Excel immediately prepared for combat. Milein went forward as the vanguard with her sword. The archer and mage, Excel and Sulunin stood behind Milein. They smoothly fixed up their battle formation at once with Milein's words, Rei was able to understand that this formation was the reason why Scorching Wind could win their fights.

While looking at them with admiration in their mind, Set and Rei prepared for battle as usual.

Rei readied the Death Scythe to slash or cast magic at any time. Set flew up to cover Rei from the sky.

「.....They came.」

At almost the same time Rei and the others entered combat readiness, the Orcs showed up out of the darkness.

There were 5 ordinary Orcs, an Orc Archer with a bow and an Orc Mage with a cane. Slightly larger than the other Orcs was an Orc General wearing armour.

「Uwa~, not just normal Orcs but 3 high ranking species.....we're definitely saved because of Rei and Set's reinforcements.」

Milein muttered as cold sweat covered her forehead. The reason was that she judged they wouldn't have been able to defeat that group by themselves. However well the fight went, a couple of Scorching Wind's members would have died. If it went badly, they would have been wiped out.

However, here was the figure of Set, an A rank monster, Griffon. In addition, although they hadn't seen him fight, they knew that Rei had defeated the D rank party Claws of the Hawk by himself.

However, Rei kept looking further into the dark from where the 9 Orcs came from. When Milein followed Rei's glance in doubt, one more shadow appeared from the darkness.

The figure was even larger than the Orc Generals, who were larger than other Orcs, exceeding 3m in size. In addition, it was wearing extravagant armour and held what seemed to be a magic great sword. And above all was it's dignity, power and spirit. Such things were clearly different from the other Orcs.

Milein, who saw the figure of the Orc, half called out to Sulunin who was the brains of the party while almost being overwhelmed by the pressure.

「Sulunin, do you know what that Orc is? It isn't any type of Orc I know.....anyhow, I have a bad feeling.」

「Impossible!?!」

As Milein's voice came out, Sulunin turned his gaze to the Orc and cried out involuntarily.

It was the first time Excel had seen Sulunin like this, he usually used polite words and was calm all the time. However, Milein, who had been in a party for a long time with Sulunin, had fortunately or unfortunately seen Sulunin like this several times before. For example, when they met the aquatic monster called Water Kelpie during a Goblin extermination. Or when they ran into a Aruraune Queen, which is a high ranking species, while doing a Treant extermination quest. In other words, whenever they ran into unplanned monsters or when they met with stronger monsters.

TLN: Okay some new monsters here that need a bit of explanation. The Water Kelpie is a Scottish shape shifting mythical creature. From google, a Aruraune is a monster from a game but is essentially a Mangadora, other wise known as a Mandrake.

「Sulunin, tell me. That Orc.....what is it?」

Desperately calming the bad feeling spreading through her chest, Milein asked Sulunin about the Orc without removing her eyes from them.

Sulunin's voice as he responded was somewhat hoarse.

「The king of the Orcs, the one that rules the Orcs, in other words, an Orc King.....it's, a B rank monster.」

「-!?I see. It's natural for Sulunin to be like this.」

Milein took in a sharp breath at Sulunin's description. A rank B monster, it's difference with a rank C monster isn't just 1 rank. Like there is a hard barrier between S rank and A rank, there is a similar barrier between B rank and C rank. As it soaked into her, she understood as she had gone past the barrier between D rank and E rank. There was a test to raise your rank, it wasn't just for show.

「It's troubling.....we surely can't expect Axe of the Thunder God, who are in the east, to come towards us in the west.」

In order to calm her restless mind, Milein deliberately spoke out in a carefree tone. Thanks to that, Excel, who had been trembling at the existence of a B rank monster, somewhat regained her composure.

Meanwhile, Rei set up the Death Scythe next to Milein and opened his mouth to speak.

「There's no need to be frightened. After all, these guys are only failures of soldiers who decided they couldn't beat the Orc subjugation force I mentioned earlier and are running away.」

The sneer he had left no doubt behind his words. Though they might not have understood his words, the Orcs got the meaning and looked towards Milein for a moment before getting excited.

「Hey, Rei! Don't provoke them so much. Do you think we can do this by ourselves!? We can't do anything now but buy time for reinforcements to come.」

「That's right. It's regrettable but we can't beat the Orcs with our current combat strength..... your Griffon, even if it's a A rank monster, we're still out numbered. Even if the Griffon can survive, it doesn't mean anything if we don't.」

Following Milein's words, Sulunin also advised that they should devote themselves to buying time and avoid fighting.

However, Rei ascertained the enemy's combat force while paying no attention to the words of the two.

(Orc King, I'll assume I'll do something about that, the problem is the high ranking species. Archer, Mage and General, one of each.It seems there's no other way.)

Spitting out a sigh in his mind, he directed his gaze to Milein.

「Milein, there is 1 suggestion.」

「What?」

「To get out of this, Set and I will be using our hidden trump cards. However then, naturally, you guys will see our last resorts, please promise that you won't reveal it to others.」

「.....What if I say no?」

「In that case, Set and I will quickly leave this place. You can do something about the Orcs with just the 3 of you.」

Rei finished saying so quite bluntly.

Saying it with a natural expression was enough for Milein to understand that they would run without hesitation if she said no.

「Milein.」

Excel gave a small mutter. Even if you said that she had calmed down since seeing the Orc King, she still wasn't able to completely remove the fear of the presence of the other party. One of the reasons why Excel could calm down was because there was a Griffon as an ally, an existence higher than the Orc King, who had an overwhelming presence as a friend. If Milein turned down Rei's proposal, once Rei left with Set, it wouldn't be possible for them to escape, she subconsciously called out to Milein.

Of course, Milein was the party leader and felt it immediately, spitting out a small sigh.

「I understand. We promise absolutely to not tell anyone about Rei and Set's trump cards. Is that good enough?」

「Ah. Even if you say it here, it's still only a verbal promise, isn't it? After the fight with the Orc King is finished, I would like to use Magic Oath. Is that okay?」

「Magic Oath?」

As Milein was unfamiliar with magic, she looked to Sulunin. Because Sulunin didn't know this magic, he only shook his head silently.

「What will you do?」

Rei prompted for a reply. Though Milein was somewhat uneasy about the unfamiliar magic, she had already made up her mind. After all, the only choices available here were to receive Rei's Magic Oath and survive or refuse and fight the group of Orcs including the Orc King by themselves. And if they chose the latter, at best they could die in battle, at worst.....no, no mistake, she and Excel would end up as breeders for the Orcs for the rest of their lives. If so, it was better to survive even if they had to receive a strange magic.

「I understand. We will protect your secret and also accept the Magic Oath.」

「Good. Set, it's okay now.」

「Guru~」

Set gave a small cry at Rei's voice. The Orcs seemed to have been restrained by the A rank monster, Griffon, until Rei's voice called out.

Even if the Orcs were in a situation where they couldn't move, they instinctively felt that the Griffon in front of their eyes wasn't a mediocre opponent.

Thus, the last battle of the village began with the Orcs, Rei, Set and Scorching Wind.

Legend Chapter 37

Legend Chapter 37

Scorching Wind and the Orcs. The distance between them gradually shrunk.

Having come out before the other Orcs, the Orc General led the ordinary Orcs. To cover them at any time, the Orc Archer and Orc Mage readied their bow and cane. The Orc King, who had set up the village, calmly watched from the back.

「Milein, How many Orcs can the 3 of you fight?」

Rei asked Milein who had readied her long sword as he set up his Death Scythe, ready to swing down.

「That's right. If you leave out the high ranking species, we can take 3 Orcs. If it's just holding them off, we can even take 5. But, it's a little hard if there's a high ranking species.」

「I see. Then I'll take care of all the high ranking species including the Orc King. Scorching wind will handle the 5 other Orcs.」

We will take care of all the high ranking species including the Orc King. After saying that to Milein, Rei turned around as if he had already forgotten and glared at the Orcs.

「Wait, seriously? I mean, are you sane?」

「Well, we'll manage. Set, you're responsible for the Orc Archer and Orc Mage. Use of all skills is permitted. I'll fight the Orc King after I clean up the Orc General.」

「Guru~」

Set gave a cry, acknowledging Rei's instruction.

Though Milein twitched in reaction to Rei saying he allowed the use of all skills, she judged that it was the last resort he mentioned a little while ago and readied her grasped sword at the Orcs.

「Sulunin, Excel, you've heard it. Apparently our opponents are the 5 Orcs.」

「Seriously, to depend on a G rank adventurer.....I'm ashamed at our weakness.」

「Sulunin-san, our top priority now is to survive.」

Excel encouraged the Sulunin, who as the oldest person, was depressed as leaving everything to a boy in his mid teens.

Rei had a faint smile as he saw this and took up his Death Scythe.

「What, don't worry. I can let Set help right away if things go according to my plan.Set!」

「Gururu~!」

At Rei's signal, Set gave a sharp cry. A mass of water appeared in front of Set at the same time. It was the Water Ball skill that Set had received after absorbing the magic stone of the Water Bear.

「Eh? What is the Griffon.....」

Sulunin, who knew a lot about magic and monsters, froze for a moment after seeing that. As if not caring, Set fired the water ball anyway. His aim was not at the Orcs in the vanguard..... instead, it was at the high ranking species of Orcs who could support from range at the back. In particular, at the higher risk Orc Mage.

Though the Orc Archer, who had already set up it's bow, shot an arrow at the water ball coming towards them, the water ball used by Set could be manipulated to some extent. Though it would probably have been shot down by the arrow if it flew straight, the water ball drew a curve in the air, dodging the arrow.....and exploding the head of the Orc Mage it was aimed at.

Though the Orc Mage tried to block the water ball with magic, the Orc Mage needed to say an incantation to cast a spell, he wasn't a match for Set who could freely handle the water ball just by thinking about it and fell to the ground with his head destroyed, blood and brains scattered into the surroundings.

Orcs are basically stupid, so in a sense, the Orc Mage was a peculiar existence that could use magic. It was an existence that could manipulate a strong magic power and couldn't be compared to those around it. Aside from the Orc Archer and Orc General who were also high ranking species, the ordinary Orcs' movements slowed after seeing a high ranking species being brought down immediately after the start of combat.

And by the time that had happened, Rei was running along the ground towards the Orcs. He chanted an incantation as he closed the distance to the Orcs.

『Flame, you are a snake. Therefore, burn my enemy as I desire.』

The flame gathered around the Death Scythe, which was a magic casting tool. He jumped on the spot, straight towards the Orcs ahead. Activating the Shoes of Sleipnir, he jumped even further into the air above the Orcs. He landed after passing over the 5 ordinary Orcs. The only one left was the Orc General, wearing poor armour, in front of him. Aiming for the body, he struck out with Death Scythe, sweeping from the side.

「Bumoo~!」

He probably sensed that the attack was dangerous, as expected of the high ranking species, Orc General. However, perceiving the danger, it was his ruin that he tried to block the Death Scythe by raising his sword. The single strike from the Death Scythe, cut through the sword that was used as a shield without resistance, the point of the Death Scythe, pierced into the Orc General's side.

The misfortune of the Orc General was that he didn't know the Death Scythe was a magic item. Though Rei easily wielded the Death Scythe, its weight exceed 100kg. Because of its ability, Rei could swing it around at it's full length and breadth inexhaustibly without felling it's weight. With the Orc General's physical strength, it was impossible to block Rei's basic strike.

『Dance Fire Snake!』

The magic triggered at the same time. A flame snake shot out from the tip of the blade that was stuck in the Orc General, it pushed forward while burning his whole body.

「Bumooooooooo~!」

His body was burned alive, the Orc General gave a scream due to the acute pain in his body that he couldn't suppress as if he was dying. His loud scream, as if forgetting they were acting secretly to escape, echoed into the surroundings.

With such severe pain, the flame snake entered from his pierced side and went up his ribs, shoulder, throat, face and finally his brain, putting out the flames of life.

Being burnt alive, it was so ghastly a scene that the other Orcs merely stared at Rei, who had just killed their Orc General commander, in silence. It was the same for Scorching Wind, the three sent dumbfounded looks at Rei.

And the moment everything stopped, Set instantly flapped his wings, running into the sky.

「.....Ha! Sulunin, Elk. Cover me. I'll take care of the 5 Orcs we were charged with. Rei is a G rank and killed the Orc General instantly, as a C rank party we're not allowed to say we can't take 5 Orcs.」

「I understand. The formation?」

「Same as usual. However, as safety is a priority, Sulunin will focus on support magic, mainly recovery magic. The attack will be by me and Excel's bow.」

「Okay.」

Quickly instructing the battle formation, Milein quickly went for the Orcs who hadn't recovered from their confusion. At the same time, Sulunin finished his incantation and cast a support magic, Milein's long sword shone brightly.

「Haah!」

With a voice filled with spirit, the sword sliced out. With Sulunin's support magic, it cut through the neck, sending the head flying, with barely any resistance.

With the current support magic cast on the sword, Milein had the confidence to cut the bodies of the Orcs in two, even though they had their boasted muscle and fat which gave more defense than ordinary armour. However, given the number of enemy targets, even though the target was small, she aimed at the neck so she could land a fatal injury.

The body of the Orc fell to the ground gushing out blood, a moment after the head flew off.

「That's 1!」

「Bumoo~!」

Seeing that, as expected, the other 4 Orcs recovered. The Orcs to the right and left of the

fallen Orc stabbed at Milein with their spears.

「Excel!」

「I won't let you do that!」

Milein shouted sharply while parrying the spear thrust from the Orc on the right. Hearing her instruction, Excel rapidly shot several arrows in succession at the Orc on the left who had also stabbed out with a spear.

「Bumo~!?!」

Several arrows pierced the Orc, forcibly halting the spear's movement. Though the arrows themselves did little damage and were stopped at the fat, the moment they pierced in, they obstructed the movement of the spear, stopping it. And the next moment, several sharp wind blades cut the Orc, slicing continuously.

「Bumoo~!?!」

Sulunin's wind magic cut off the right hand and left foot of the Orc who then fell to the ground, covered in deep cuts.

「Die!」

Milein dodged the stabbing spear attack of the Orc on the right and shouted as she swung her sword down sharply, cutting the neck.

「That's 2!」

While shouting, she looked around for an instant. Set was flying in the sky, trying to attack the Orc Archer. Against that, the Orc Archer desperately shot a few arrows at Set.

But.....

「Gururu~!」

The beak of the Griffon, who had the upper body of an eagle, opened with a cry. Flames were spit out from it, blowing away the surrounding darkness. To the arrows that Set's flame breath was aimed at, everything except the arrowheads, which were made of some animal bones, were burnt up. The arrowheads were sent flying in different directions from the impact.

「Fire Breath? It used water a little while ago, what the hell is that Griffon.....rare species?」

Sulunin saw that and muttered reflexively.

To the side of where Set and Scorching Wind were fighting, Rei's fight with the Orc King was also starting.

Though Rei overwhelmed the Orc General with brute strength and the weight of the Death

Scythe, as expected, the Orc General was like a baby compared to the Orc King who led the Orcs. He had a huge sword in his hand, it was a magic sword that could clash with the Death Scythe and would be called a great sword if used by an ordinary person.

「Haah!」

Attacking with a scooping strike from below, it caught the Orc King's great sword with a high pitched, metallic *gin~* sound.

Originally, Rei had wanted to attack by swinging it down, however, Rei's height was only 165cm, shorter than the ordinary Orc. If swinging down to attack was difficult against an Orc General, then it was impossible against the even larger Orc King.

An inhuman muscular strength that could go evenly against the Death Scythe which weighed over 100kg, that was the Orc King.

(Tch, should I have used the Dancing Flame Snake on this guy and not the Orc General? No, that's impossible. If I aimed at the Orc King from that position, the Orc General would have blocked me. Then, what to do? My attacks are not effective because of his weapon. In other words, I should make him lose his weapon. So that means.....)

「Corrosion」

The weapon skill of the Death Scythe that he had received from the magic stone of the Queen Ant, Corrosion. It was a skill that gradually corroded the enemies weapons and armour when they clashed. To use it, Rei clashed with the Orc King's sword.

However, the effect of corrosion was only increased by a degree after a single clash. Therefore, it was necessary to use corrosion each time he clashed with the Orc King's great sword.

「Corrosion」

The Orc King blocked the side sweeping strike with his great sword.

「Corrosion」

The Orc King repelled the blade of the Death Scythe, raised in a reverse Kesagiri.

Such a fight repeated for a few minutes. Normally, as the user's magic is consumed if a weapon skill is used, the consecutive use of weapon skills usually wouldn't be done. However, Rei was described by Zepairu as having an extraordinary magic power. He continued to activate corrosion without appearing to be tired.

Sweeping from below, striking from the side. Evading attacks and using the momentum to stab at the Orc King's throat with the handle.

That looked like a magnificent dance. But though sword dancing existed in Elgin, this was

more likely to be called a scythe dance.

「.....」

Excel, who had readied her bow to support, caught sight of Rei's figure in the hard fight and spaced out as she admired his movements.

「Excel!」

However, in an instant, she was pulled back to reality by Milein's shout as she cut an Orc.

And, at the same time Excel aimed at an Orc with her bow, the moment finally came.

「Corrosion」

The sword clashed with the Death Scythe. The Orc King's great sword had gradually changed colour due to the effect of the corrosion.....the moment it collided with the Death Scythe, its blade was cut right in two.

「.....」

Several times. No, the Orc King turned his eyes in silence to the Death Scythe, which had triggered corrosion dozens of times before cutting his loved sword in two.

The Orc King had noticed his own sword was taking fatal damage. However, it still wasn't impossible to fight the man with vast magical power in front of him with his sword.

No, he had judged that he could endure the attacks of his enemy because his sword was a magic item.

「Bumoooooooo~!」

Raising a shout that echoed into the village, he hurled the handle of the great sword at Rei. To the blinded Rei, he threw out his fist to crush him with a physical strength that exceeded the Orc General.

「Indeed, truly someone who can sit on the throne. But.....」

Using the handle of the Death Scythe to deal with the handle of the great sword, he used the momentum to avoid the Orc King's fist. Passing by each other.....he went for the belly of the big Orc King with the Death Scythe's blade at the same time.

「Bumooooooooooooo!」

Death cries. While raising a cry that could only be called as such, he stayed on the spot without falling to the ground.

Though his body was only connected by a single piece of skin, still, the Orc King stood without falling to the ground. It could be said that it was the pride of a king.

「.....Ah. I understand」

The king had neither fallen to the ground or died. In the case a king was defeated by the enemy on the battlefield, he would be decapitated. Rei sensed that atmosphere from the Orc King and approached him with his hand on the Death Scythe.

「Farewell, proud king of the Orcs」

「Bumoooooooo~!」

Zan~!

It was the fastest attack of today. People watching only saw an attack like a flash of light as the Orc King's neck was cut.

Almost at the same time, Set made a steep dive from the sky, crushing the Orc Archer's head with his eagle like claws as Milein split the head of the last Orc.

Legend Chapter 38

Legend Chapter 38

A fierce fight. The fight against the Orcs led by the Orc King could be called as such.

Scorching Wind, led by Milein, said that they would only be able to hold off 5 Orcs, but with the luck that the Orcs were surprised by Rei's sudden attack, they were able to beat all 5 Orcs with three people.

As for Rei, he didn't have a chance to use his best skill, fire magic, and was only able to fight the proud Orc King with his Death Scythe, decapitating him.

The person who pushed their superiority most in this fight would have been Set. Should you call the the dignity of an A rank monster, his fight against the Orc Archer was a complete victory.

「Haa, haa, haa.....」

In front of the corpses of the Orcs, Milein was breathing roughly. Continuously assisting using recovery magic as well as attacking, Sulunin had almost used up his magic power and sat down on the ground.

The most energetic person in Scorching Wind was surprisingly the newbie, Excel. Although she was sweating a lot, she was wary of the surroundings and wasn't breathing roughly.

However, this was due to the roles in their party. Milein, who was the party leader of Scorching Wind, was the sole person responsible for the vanguard, Sulunin used magic to attack, recover and support, because of this, Excel's main role was to restrain the enemy.

「Well, we won. I think I said that we'd do our best to hold out against 5, but.」

「Haa, haa, haa.....fuu. Well about that, even if you say Rei is strong, a G rank adventurer fighting evenly with an Orc King.....fighting.....that reminds me, he didn't even receive a single wound from fighting the B rank Orc King head on. Seriously, maybe he'll reach S rank in future. Well, anyway. At the very least, your rank can contend with an Orc King, even though I'm ashamed to say, we as a C rank party can't even defeat ordinary Orcs.Ah I'm tired. Anyway, I'm tired. Terribly tired. I don't even want to take another step.」

To Milein's words, Sulunin agreed by nodding.

「With this, we'll will become a famous party for a while. That's why I say we should actively promote ourselves.」

「.....About that.」

While wary of the surroundings, Excel nodded with a faint smile.

The moment Rei was going to say something.

『UOOOOOOoooooooo~!』

A cry from the east of the village could be heard.

「It seems the fight has been decided there.」

It was so, the undeniable roar of victory could be heard now. It wasn't possible to mishear the voices mixed with jubilation.

「It seems so. Well, because the Orc King came here, I guess they were discarded pawns for their escape after all.」

「Even if they were sacrificed as pawns, as expected, they were only able to survive in the village because of the Orc King.」

Naturally, if the troops for the guard were increased, the forces for the diversion would decrease, and they would likely have been annihilated early on. A large escort along with the Orc King would also be more likely to be found by the members of the subjugation force.

「.....Well then. Well, it seems the Orc subjugation quest has ended with this.」

「You're right.It was a tiring request. Well, it can't be helped as the city of Gimuru would incur damage if we left it alone.」

Milein had a wry smile as she glanced to the side. Rei stored the corpse of the Orc Mage that Set had defeated as well as the corpses of the Orc General and the Orc King into the Misty Ring.

All of Scorching Wind looked at Rei with interest, Sulunin called out to Rei as he was storing the corpse of the Orc King.

「Heh~, I've seen it a few times from further away but this is the first time to see it so close. Is that the item box?」

「Ah. It's a parting gift from my teacher who taught me magic, I only found out it was an ultra rare item after I came to the city of Gimuru.」

「Such a magic item, even if you say it's a parting gift for a pupil.....I would like to meet him once.」

「Well, I never paid attention to where I lived until I was sent away my spatial magic. It will be a little difficult to introduce you as I don't even know where teacher's house is.」

「Hey.」

A voice abruptly interrupted Sulunin and Rei's conversation. When Rei turned his gaze to the voice, he saw Milein looking at him with questioning eyes.

「What's wrong?」

「Though I understand collecting the high ranking species that you and Set-chan defeated, why aren't you collecting the Orc Archer?」

What Milein had looked at earlier was the corpse of the Orc Archer whose head was crushed by Set. High ranking Orcs.....even if you say that, Orc Generals and Orc Mages were C rank monsters and differed from Orc Archers which were still D rank. Still, it was a high ranking Orc, the skin, several organs and the subjugation proof could be stripped off for

materials, the magic stone of a D rank monster was also worth a lot.

Rei glanced at Milein as she said that words, and turned his eyes to the Orc Archer as he spoke.

「Do you remember what we talked about before the battle with the Orcs?」

「What, this all of a sudden. Of course I remember. In return for Rei and Set using their trump cards to help us, you will cast Magic Oath on us?」

While asking Milein, he gave a quick wink that only Set could see as she replied.

While the 3 members of Scorching Wind were listening interestingly at Rei's words, Set saw the signal and went around to the back.

「Ah. So, because of that, I'll be burdening you in various ways with Magic Oath. Compensation.....this is something like that.」

「.....In other words, the reason is that Magic Oath is a dangerous magic?」

「Of course there's no danger if you don't try to tell others my secret. However, you still wouldn't feel good being bound by it, don't you think? Well, Magic Oath does give you benefits to a certain level.」

「Benefits?」

「Ah. It's a property of the magic used for Magic Oath, but a person who has the magic cast on them more or less get's increased resistance to flames and heat. 」

「.....Okay. There's no use in saying anything now, we would have all died if it weren't for you anyway. Please do it quickly before my resolution fades. Sulunin, Excel, you guys okay?」

Taking a deep breath, Milein agreed to accept the Magic Oath. As for the two people Milein called out to, Sulunin was silent while Excel nodded with somewhat cramped cheeks.

Rei saw the state of the 3 and signaled to Set.

If the members of Scorching Wind had tried to run away instead of receiving the Magic Oath, Set would have attacked them from behind.

Set saw Rei's signal and relaxed his combat readiness while watching for attacks from Orc remnants.

「Let's go.」

Milein nodded at Rei's words as he started his incantation.

『Flame, thou is a seed. If the host breaks the contract, use their life to bloom into flames in glory.』

With Rei's incantation, the flame gathered on the Death Scythe was compressed into the size of a seed.

He lifted the handle of the Death Scythe and brought it in contact with Milein's head.

『Seed of Contract.』

As the same time the incantation was completed, the seed of flame from the Death Scythe entered Milein's head smoothly.

「Ah.....」

Though Milein unintentionally raised a voice at that feeling, there wasn't a shock as she expected, instead, she felt something faintly warm enter her.

「That, has it finished?」

Though she muttered instinctively, Rei only gave a small nod in response.

「Right, but there's still 2 people left.」

Saying so, he used the same magic on Sulunin and Excel.

And, after Rei used the spell for contract on the three people, they gave a small sigh.

「It's good with this. So, I'll give a detailed explanation of the magic. Because the seed planted in you will burn up your body if you try to tell other about Set's Fire Breath, Water Ball or my corrosion, you should be careful about what you say and do.」

Their body being burnt from the inside, from the fight a little while ago.....the appearance of the Orc General appeared inside the minds of Scorching Wind.

The Orc General, which was a C rank monster, cared neither about shame or reputation and screamed out in pain. They were made to understand how severe the pain was just by seeing it.

「With it, you will also receive resistance to flames and heat as I mentioned a little while ago.」

「Guh, to be sure, what kind of resistance is it?」

Milein wiped the image of the Orc General from her mind and asked Rei.

「About that.....it seems damage from flames is reduced by roughly 10%. At the same time, this also benefits people that can use magic, the power of fire magic that is used is also roughly increased by 10% and magic power consumption is reduced by 10%. Well, to put it simply, it benefits the fire element.」

「10%, is it.」

Sulunin was stunned as he heard Rei's description.

Precisely because Sulunin was a magician, he was able to clearly understand how much the benefit was. Though a kind of magic item that increased magic power existed, its performance wasn't to the degree of increasing the power of the magic and it was only possible to buy one with a few platinum coins. When it came to magic items that could

increase the power of magic by a noticeable amount, you would need payment in light gold coins to obtain it.

In addition, there was the added bonus of resistance to heat and fire. For Sulunin, which wasn't part of his nature to disclose Rei and Set's abilities, the magic named Seed of Contract gave nothing other than benefits.

「I have understood the magic. Because, of course, I don't intend to spread the information, I am lucky to have the benefits from the Seed of Contract. So, can we really get the Orc Archer?」

「I don't care. Well then, I'll go to where Hobbes is. Even if the Orc King is defeated, the quest won't end unless I report it.」

「Eeh, please do so. As expected, because we're tired, we'll join you later after we take a rest.」

Nodding at Milein's words, he sat astride Set's back.

「Ah, I'd like you to leave Set-chan if possible. For me to heal.」

「Milein, don't ask for the impossible.」

Sulunin chided Milein as she looked at Set wistfully. Excel watched on with a wry smile.

「Guru~」

Giving a small cry at Milein, Set shook his tail several times.

「Milein, Set said that he will play with you again later.」

Rei interpreted Set's actions and told that to Milein.

At this time, Set's appearance of readiness to pounce at them if they fled from the Seed of Contract from before could not be seen at all.

「Eh? Really? Un~, un~. Let's play to the most before we leave. I still have some dried meat.」

While hearing Milein's joyful voice, they once again in this day started to rise into the sky.

「Dawn, is it?」

What Rei saw as he ascended into the sky was the scene of the night's darkness fading away as the morning sun rose from the east.

「In the end, we were kept fighting all night. Well, those below still look energetic.」

Should you say, as expected of adventurers, they didn't look like they had stayed up all night, along with Axe of the Thunder God who defeated the diversion force, they seemed to be searching through the Orc village to thoroughly hunt out the remnants of the Orcs.

The Orcs that were found hiding and lurking in a few hidden places were fought, but were already outnumbered by the crowd of people. The Orc who attacked in a last ditch resistance were killed one after the other.

Though it may be considered cruel if you heard of the remnants being hunted down, it was a necessary job. Because Orcs used female humans for breeding, if they showed unnecessary mercy and let them go, it was likely that the city of Gimuru would incur damage. At any rate, this was because the city of Gimuru was the nearest location where people gathered.

While glancing towards the ground for an instant, where the hunt for the remnants was being carried out, he signaled Set to go to the place Hobbes was waiting at.

At this time, Elk saw the figure of Set moving away from the village and was instinctively certain that Rei and Set had taken out the Orc leader.

At a place a little further away from the Orc village. Hobbes looked up into the brightening sky.

In the carriages a bit further away from Hobbes, the two women saved from the Orc village were sleeping like the dead. Finally realising that they had been rescued from the Orcs, all their past fatigue was released at once. One of the causes was also that Hobbes had given them some tea with the effect of relaxing their mind so that they wouldn't be reminded of being caught by the Orcs.

「.....With that smoke, the village is burning without doubt. In that case, the night attack could be considered a success. If any unforeseen circumstances had occurred, I would have been informed immediately.」

As he was originally an adventurer, Hobbes was accustomed to waiting. Though impatient and unpleasant thoughts floated into his mind, he believed in the participants of the Orc subjugation force and waited quietly at his place.

Of course, he held a spear which he habitually used as an adventurer in case of emergencies. This was because Orcs running away from the village might come here.

Hobbes, who turned his gaze to the Orc village in that state, suddenly heard something in the surroundings.....with Set flying calmly in the morning glow, he found the figure of Rei riding on his back. He was convinced of the success of the night attack as small smile floated onto his face.

Legend Chapter 39

Legend Chapter 39

As the light of the sun gradually rose and spread to the surroundings, Rei and Set landed at Hobbes' position.

「How did it go?」

「No problems. The leader of the Orcs has been taken out.」

「I see.」

Giving a small nod at Rei's words, he took out a small whistle from his chest and blew with all his might.

Simultaneously, a shrill sound resounded throughout the area.

The thing Hobbes was blowing on was a Magic Whistle, a kind of magic item. However, contrary to its exaggerated name, it was a cheap item that could be bought for a few gold coins. Its effect was simple. Using the user's magic power, it would produce a shrill sound into the surrounding area. But, at times where a simple clear signal needs to be used, it was quite useful.

As for Hobbes who just blew the Magic Whistle, it was decided previously that it would be used to inform the members of the subjugation force that the leader of the Orcs had been defeated. Once the participants of the night attack had finished hunting the remnants of the Orcs, they would return immediately.

「With this it's good.Now then, let's hear from you first.」

Returning the Magic Whistle to his chest, Hobbes directed his gaze to Rei.

「That's right. To start, as expected, Dark Night's Star attacked me during the night attack, so I defeated them.」

「.....So, what happened to Dark Night's Star?」

「They're all dead.」

「I see.....didn't you think it would be better to catch them alive and arrest them?」

「And not kill the opponents who are trying to kill me?」

「Well, I cannot say for sure.....however, there would be benefits if you had caught them alive.」

「Benefits? In addition to getting information?」

Listening to Hobbes words, he asked curiously.

In the first place, you could understand Dark Night's Star party by simply looking at the party composition, because there didn't seem to be anyone behind them, he didn't think he would be able to get any significant information from them. However, after hearing that there might have been benefits from it, Rei's interest sprung up and he prompted Hobbes to continue his story.

「Ah. If the members of Dark Night's Star had been caught alive, they would have been branded as criminals and sold as slaves. And from that, you would have received half the sales.」

「Slaves, is it.」

「Hm? Ah, right. You lived with your magic teacher until you came to the city of Gimuru. Then you haven't seen slaves before?」

「Well, something like that. Though I'm not interested in slaves, I'll remember the information.」

「Ah, please do. For your information, the guild is thankful if you catch them alive. Basically, if you catch a thief alive, they will be sold as slaves and half the sales will go to the adventurer.」

That was the end of Dark Night's Star. For Hobbes, he didn't have the time to pay attention to to a party paying the price they deserved.

「So, to change the subject.....even if you came to tell me that the subjugation has been completed, who defeated the Orc leader?」

「Ah. We discovered some Orcs trying to escape the village under the cover of darkness. We met with Milein's Scorching Wind and exterminated them.」

While explaining the circumstances to Hobbes, he retrieved the corpse of the Orc King from the Misty Ring's list in his mind.

The corpse of a monster 3m in size appeared in front of his eyes. The body was in a state where it was cut in two at the middle, connected only by a piece of skin. The Orc King's head lay next to it. Hobbes directed a stunned gaze at the corpse.

「Oi, you don't mean this guy.....」

Looking at the corpse of the monster, Hobbes turned sharply to Rei. As expected of a veteran adventurer, he knew what the monster lying on the ground in front of him was.

「Ah. I heard from the mage of Scorching Wind. It's probably an Orc King?」

「.....You're right. A rank B monster, Orc King. Though I have had the experience of fighting one several times when I was an adventurer.....defeating one by yourself. No, there is Set, an A rank Monster and the C rank party Scorching Wind, it might be possible.」

Hobbes nodded as he muttered. Rei saw this and realised the misunderstanding immediately, he judged that it would probably be easier for him to rank up in the guild if he honestly told him that he had defeated the Orc King by himself.

(As well as that, Scorching Wind probably.....I mean, Milein will probably spread the news that I defeated it.)

The magic used on Milein, Seed of Contract, only forbade her from speaking any information about Set's Fire Breath, Water Ball and Rei's Corrosion. Since telling people that Rei defeated the Orc King wasn't forbidden, the information would spread around sooner or later.

Well, though in that case, it might be awkward if they are asked how it was defeated.....Rei hoped that they would keep it in mind so as to not trigger the Seed of Contract.

From the feeling in participating in a fight with them, he didn't worry about it too much. He intuitively understood that he was able to trust them, unlike the unreliable Dark Night's Star.

「I'll say it first, the Orc King also led 5 ordinary Orcs as well as one Orc Archer, Orc Mage and Orc General. Scorching Wind defeated the 5 Orcs and Set killed the Orc Mage and Orc Archer. I killed the Orc General and Orc King.」

The moment Rei said that, Hobbes suddenly stopped moving. He cautiously turned his eyes from the Orc King to Rei.

「Just now, what did you say? I'm sorry but I'm missing half an ear so I didn't hear that clearly. It seems I misheard it one way or another.」

Saying so, Hobbes pointed to his half torn right ear. However, it wasn't unreasonable. He had just heard a G rank adventurer say he defeated an Orc King, a B rank monster, by himself. Even though Hobbes knew that Rei wasn't normal, no matter what, he still couldn't believe it.

If it were Set, he might have been able to accept him defeating the Orc King. Because after all, the Griffon was an A rank monster, it shouldn't be too difficult to defeat lower rank Orc King.

But.....

「I defeated the Orc King.....No, well, I understand that it sounds unbelievable. It will become clear if you ask Scorching Wind later.」

Saying that, he saw several sets of adventurers trickling back from the Orc village and stored the corpse of the Orc King back into the Misty Ring as he didn't want to cause any meaningless noise about it.

「Heey~、Hobbes, Rei and Set! 」

While lending a shoulder to Min, who was walking unsteadily, Elk, the leader of Axe of the Thunder God, waved his hand while shouting. The colour of fatigue from fighting Orcs all night long could hardly be seen on his face. As for Min who was being carried on his back, maybe because she had overused her magic and had hardly any magic power left, she looked understandably pale and exhausted. Their son, Rhodes, was next to his parents.....Or should you say, was looking at his mother anxiously.

The figures of all the people who participated in the Orc subjugation could be seen behind them. From Rei's brief look, the number of people seemed to have decreased from the strategy meeting. As expected, it was too selfish to hope that all members would survive attacking an Orc village lead by an Orc King.

Still, as it was a night raid, it was good to get off with this degree of casualties. All the members of the subjugation force understood that if they had fought during the daytime, the casualties would be much greater.

「Oh, Rei. You beat the boss of the Orcs in the end didn't you?」

Arriving at where Hobbes was, other adventurers who had sat down because of fatigue, to treat their wounds or to pick up their belongings from the horse drawn carriages cast skeptical looks when Elk asked in a loud voice.

Next to him, Rhodes looked at Rei and frowned.

「Dad, no matter what the circumstances, this guy wouldn't be able to kill the leader of the Orcs. Certainly, I understand that Rei has ability beyond G rank. But.....」

「Gururu~」

Set growled to criticize Rhodes who was about to say something.

「.....Tch, anyway! I won't believe that this guy defeated the Orc leader. Hey, Mum. You should go take a rest now.」

To Set's growl, Rhodes left a parting shot and left, taking Min towards the carriages. Min followed Rhodes with a wry smile.

Seeing the wry smile on his wife's face, Elk smiled as he saw them off before giving a small apology to Rei.

「Sorry about this. Hey, you know the Orcs that were going to sneak round behind us? Though he now admits that you have skills after seeing you defeat those guys, it seems he won't honestly say that in the open to you.」

「Guru~.....」

To Set who gave a sullen cry, Rei stroked his back to calm him while smiling back at Elk with a similar wry smile.

「Hey, calm down. His attitude has already become a lot better compared to when we first met, so don't be too displeased.」

「Gurururu~」

There's no helping it, Set seemed to say as he swung his tail and lay down to rest a bit further away.

「Well, Set's attitude is justifiable. When he matures, he will be forced to admit the strength of the strong.....」

To Elk who spat out a sigh, Hobbes came over and passed him a glass of water.

「Come now, take a drink and a break first. Seriously, you're asking for too much from your

son. In the first place, as a C rank adventurer for his age, he's the top of his generation of adventurers in the city of Gimuru.Well, though there are exceptions to everything.」

For an instant, Hobbes glanced at Rei, hinting. As for Elk, from what was said, he understood that his intuition was correct.

「That was it after all. I thought so.」

「Yes, yes, if Rei wasn't there, it would have been impossible to defeat the Orc King.」

Suddenly interrupting the conversation was Milien, the leader of Scorching Wind, who had fought in the battle with the Orc King with Rei.

The moment the words Orc King came out, Hobbes, Elk and the nearby adventurers who heard the story about Rei became noisy.

「Hey, what I heard just now.」

「If I didn't mishear, I heard Orc King.」

「I heard that as well.」

「But come on, that kid as Set. Then maybe.....」

「But, didn't Milein just say that they would have lost to the Orc King if Rei wasn't there?」

「Well maybe, could it be that Scorching Wind, with Rei's cooperation, defeated the Orc King?」

「With Set-chan there, anything can be done!」

While hearing the voices around him, Elk looked to confirm it with a surprised face.

「Oi, it is seriously an Orc King?」

「That's right. I already thought we were finished when I first saw the Orc King. After all, aside from the Orc King there was also an Orc General, an Orc Mage, an Orc Archer and 5 more ordinary Orcs.....」

「How to say, it certainly was a difficult situation.」

「I know right? Well, we managed somehow in the end thanks to Rei and Set.」

「Hey, Rei. You put the corpse of the Orc King into the Misty Ring right? Could you show me the Orc King for a moment? Fortunately or not, I've never seen an Orc King directly.」

「I would like to take a short break as soon as I can first of all. As expected, I'm tired after fighting all night.」

Muttering as he spat out a sigh, Hobbes lightly tapped Rei's shoulder.

「Give up, Elk won't listen once he starts. As for the members of the subjugation force, they participated regardless of the danger. For that, I wouldn't be surprised if they wanted to take a look at the Orc King that you defeated.」

「That seems to be so. After continuously fighting the whole night, are there any adventurers not tired?」

Following up from Hobbes, Elk continued. Moreover, thought the people resting nearby didn't say anything, the light of expectation could be seen in their eyes. As for the people resting in the carriages or taking a spare portion of drink or food from their baggage, hearing

the noise, they sent glances of expectation.

「Come on, come on. Now that it's come to this, surely you have to show it? Because you killed it, you shouldn't be so modest.」

「.....Though the commotion escalated because of you.....Well, fine. Since things have gone this way, I can't not show it.」

Giving a sigh of resignation at Milein's words, Rei once again took the corpse of the Orc King from the Misty Ring.

There might also have been some people who saw the effect of the Misty Ring close up for the first time. Several voices of surprise were heard.

And there were also surprised voices when the corpse of the Orc King appeared, everyone in the area made similar sounds.

「It's huge.」

「Ah. Obviously when you compare it to an ordinary Orc. In addition, its neck has been cut. It must have been a very sharp blow.」

「Its body is almost split in two. This, did that kid Rei really do this?」

The body was almost cut in two, only connected by a piece of skin. And right next to the body lay the head of the Orc King

The surrounding adventurers who saw that carved into their mind the ability of Rei, who was originally a G rank.

「Right? Wasn't it good to show it?」

As if his mischief had succeeded, Elk smiled like a naughty brat as he slapped Rei on the back.

「At the very least, the people who participated in the subjugation force will never see you as a mere G rank anymore.」

「.....Was that your aim. Well, I would like to thank you for that.」

「Ah, no need to thank me. It's not a bad thing to make a talented guy like you owe me a favour.」

Thus, after everyone had taken a good look at the Orc King, the look out was left to Elk and Hobbes, who still had strength to spare. Most of the adventurers slept well after fighting all night long and recovered from their fatigue while being cautious of attacks from remnant Orcs and other monsters.

Legend Chapter 40

Legend Chapter 40

The night attack against the Orc village had been completed, it was several hours after returning to Hobbes' location. Everyone in the subjugation force's members, including Rei, were sleeping like logs.

Hobbes was near the carriages, acting as the lookout while everyone else was sleeping. Next to him, Elk sat down, carrying food that Rei had taken out of the Misty Ring before he had gone to sleep.

「Hey, Elk. Because you're technically on watch right now, you should at least act like it.」

Hobbes called out to Elk while looking around as he sat on the ground.

However, Elk gave an amazed reply while eating skewers, sandwiches and roasted Fang Boar.

「Hey, come on, even you know how sharp Set's sense are. With that fellow, there's almost no need to be worried about an enemy surprise attack.」

Elk glaced ahead to Set, who had plopped himself on the ground, closed his eyes, and gone to sleep. However, Hobbes and Elk could easily imagine that he wasn't asleep was alert of the surroundings.

「But you know.....how to say it, are you alright eating so much?」

Elk had already eaten enough food for 10 people, Hobbes muttered in an amazed voice in reaction to Elk's previous words.

「After all, I was fighting all night. When everyone gets up, won't there be the big job of stripping materials and subjugation proofs from the Orcs in the village? And the treasure that the Orcs have collected has yet to be found.Well, since we didn't find anything in the mansion of the Orc King in the center of the village, we can't expect too much.」

Elk finally finished his meal, released a big burp and drank the water in the water bottle beside him.

「That's true.Are you really okay with not sleeping?」

「I'm fine, you can't compare me to the other guys. Anyway, didn't we fight continuously for three days and nights in that Kraken subjugation several years ago? This is an easy overnight victory compared to that.」

「.....You, I can't stay young forever, you'll start to notice it sooner or later.」

「Not yet, not yet, I can't lose to the young guys yet.」

To Elk's words, Hobbes let out a sigh as he also grabbed a water bottle nearby.

Anyhow, the sunlight of the mid summer sun glared down on the camp, set up on a grassy

plain, a small distance away from the Orc village. There weren't any roofs to offer protection from the sun, as they sat in direct sunlight, it was necessary to replenish their moisture levels frequently.

「It seems the Rowdy Elk is still alive and well.」

Rowdy Elk. It was a nickname attached to Elk when he was still a low rank adventurer. Although his party, Axe of the Thunder God, was more well known now, after Elk had just registered with the guild and gotten his fingers burnt several times, Hobbes, who was a C rank adventurer when Elk just registered, gave Elk that name.

Hearing his old nickname that he wanted to forget, Elk scrunched his eyebrows. With an expression that matched the conversation about old times, Hobbes relaxed and turned his eyes to Elk with a smile.

「Stop with calling me that name already.」

Indeed he had grown up and married, he wasn't too happy at all to be called Rowdy, the name he had been given as a kid.

「Well, you're certainly strong enough now. Even though it's only been a while, this old me has already retired from being an adventurer. If you weren't here for this request in particular, we probably wouldn't have been able to carry out such a crazy strategy.But you know, it's a fact that the new seedlings won't grow if the ones at the top do their best forever.」

「.....Rei, is it?」

As expected, it wasn't something to talk about in a loud voice, so he asked in hushed tones.

「Well, there's that as well.....that fellow might be an exception. It's your son I'm talking about. But Rei is it? Do you know? That guy, during the night attack against the Orcs, he retaliated against a surprise attack by Dark Night's Star and defeated them all.」

「Heh~. That was expected.It's Dark Night's Star's own fault though. 」

「At the very least, it's a mistake that this fellow is only rank G. When this request ends and we return to the guild, I'm going to negotiate and recommend that he be given E rank.」

「Oi, oi, going up two ranks at once?」

「No, that's three ranks」

「Hobbes?」

「I plan to have him take the rank up test to D rank as soon as possible.」

Even if you said that this was an important emergency request, to rank up three times from one request was a substantial amount. Elk understood how impossible it was because he had climbed those ranks himself.

「.....Are you serious?」

Or rather, are you sane? Elk's eyes seemed to ask as he looked at Hobbes.

However, Hobbes only gave a small nod as if it were natural.

「Of course. What kind of adventurer has the ability to beat a B rank Orc King? Letting him move through E and F rank is too inefficient. In addition.....」

Glancing to a place bit further away. Set was lying down near the carriage Rei was sleeping in.

「That fellow is accompanied by a Griffon, an A rank monster. I don't think it would be strange if he made it to B or A rank.」

「Hey!」

At those words, Elk was doubting Hobbes' sanity. However, Hobbes had a smile that looked liked Elk's usual grin.

「Of course I don't mean immediately. Aside from getting to D rank, it is a fact that apart from combat ability, various knowledge is also required to get to B and A rank.」

If he became an A or B rank adventurer, he would be known as a top tier adventurer. It wasn't that rare for those adventurers to receive direct requests from people such as nobles or royalty. For those times, etiquette is necessary, there are also times where decisions must be made for the sake of national interest.

Though Elk's words and manners didn't sound like that of nobility or royalty, he had the minimum knowledge required regarding manners. And most importantly, as Elk's wife, Min, was standing nearby and dealing with everything necessary, it wasn't really a problem for the A rank party Axe of the Thunder God. However, if you talk about Rei, Hobbes and Elk could tell by looking that he wasn't very good at socialising. If such a person met with nobility or royalty, how would it turn out.....in the best case, he would be told off. However, if it didn't go well, there was a possibility he wouldn't be able to continue as an adventurer. Losing someone over such a trivial thing was unthinkable for the two men.

「In addition.....hey, Elk. You, didn't you notice anything while looking at the corpse of the Orc King?」

「.....Notice what?」

As he asked Hobbes, the picture of the corpse of the Orc King he saw a few hours ago floated in his mind. The first thing that came to his eyes was the body, connected only by a single piece of skin.....it couldn't be.

「It was a single blow that cut off the head. The skill required to that, it doesn't take a lot of imagination to tell you. At the very least, it's impossible for me to do it.」

He turned his eyes and moved his hands to his battle axe while muttering.

Rather than cutting, the axe was a weapon of destruction. Though it was possible for Elk to destroy the head into a thousand pieces, it was impossible for him to cut as sharply as Rei did.

However, Hobbes gave a small shake of his neck at Elk's words.

「Not that.No, but I understand what you want to say. Actually, living up until now, I've seen such sharp cuts several times. But you know, do you know what he said when I asked him his profession in the guild meeting room?」

「.....What?」

「A Magic Warrior. In other words, Rei can practice magic. But, was there a wound on the Orc King caused by magic?」

Being asked that, he remembered the words from his son, Rhodes.

He said that the Orcs who had tried to sneak around the back during the fight at the east of the village had been annihilated. At that time he said that it might have something to do with Set's power, he didn't know that most of the Orcs were burnt to death by Rei. At any rate, Griffons couldn't manipulate fire.

TLN: *cough* Fire Breath *cough*

That meant.....

「Oi. That means Rei defeated the Orc King without using everything?」

「Maybe so. Though there is a possibility he used a wind magic something like Razor Whirlwind.....as far as I know, Rei's specialty should be in fire magic. Maybe though he hasn't used everything he has.....Rei has the capability to defeat an Orc King in that state, if you think about the fact that he's accompanied by an A rank monster, Griffon, it isn't strange to think that at the very least, he has the equivalent combat power of a B or A rank adventurer.」

TLN: The exact words of Razor Whirlwind are カマイタチ, it's a monster from Japanese folklore that was known to create whirlwinds to cut their victim. Because of this, it has a second meaning of cuts from whirlwinds.

「.....If the story is true then certainly.」

Though Rei looked like he has a diminutive and petite physique compared with his son, Rhodes, he judged that the ability hidden in his body outstripped that of his son. At the same time, imagining the past trouble, Rhode's rebellious spirit and feelings of rivalry with Rei throughout this request.....a mischievous smile floated onto his face.

(Having a rival like that isn't a bad thing. If his rival is a wall high enough to beat him, Rhodes will mature as an adventurer. Though there is a possibility that he breaks down if he can't overcome it.....well, because it is my son, he'll manage somehow.)

As Elk suddenly thought in his mind, he felt envious for having such a person.

「So, as you know Elk, the adventurers guild in Gimuru is basically always understaffed.」

「.....Ah well.」

What Hobbes said was true. About the subjugation of the Kraken Elk mentioned earlier, there was a support request through the guild for Axe of the Thunder God from a seaside town. The adventurers guild was always understaffed.....no, to be precise there was a limited number of high rank adventurers. C and D rank. As for E and G rank, there was a moderate amount of them.

「It's still okay now. You are still in active service, but like me, you won't be able to stand in the front line for much longer. However, the thought of when your and my generation has retired.....」

「Hobbes.」

Though hesitated to say something for a moment, as if he recovered immediately, he gave Hobbes a big slap on the back.

「Hey, your hairline will retreat even more if you worry too much you know?」

Being what he should really be worrying about without hesitation, Hobbes involuntarily gave a wry smile.

「In the next generation, there's also my son, Rhodes. There's also Rei. Come one, you don't need to worry so much. There are also unknown but talented guys around. Even low rank adventurers will begin to bloom soon.」

「You're right.....ah, it certainly is true. It seems I've gotten sentimental about the result after being out of the field for so long.」

「Sorry to dump cold water on you but doesn't that seem like something an old person would say?」

「Forget it. You won't change as much as me.Now then, I think it's about time?」

Finishing the talk, he confirmed the position of the sun.

Because there wasn't such a thing as a watch, he could only roughly measure the time from the position of the sun.

「It is. If possible I would want to take things a bit slower, after all, it's hot. However, if the proof of subjugation and materials aren't stripped from the Orcs soon, there's a possibility they will be damaged or eaten by other animals and monsters.」

Nodding at Elk's words, he took the Magic Whistle from his chest and blew it with all his might. With that, the sleeping members of the subjugation force began to wake up.

While everyone was not in state where their fatigue had completely gone, they immediately headed towards the Orc village after eating and drinking some light rations taken out from Rei's Misty Ring.

「Rei, don't you need to go to the village?」

Once Rei woke up, he had started to hand out the supplies stored in the Misty Ring, once his work was done, he turned around to the voice who was playing with Set.

Elk looked like he still had strength to spare even though he had been a lookout all night and had not slept a wink, Min who had recovered a certain amount of magic power back looked healthier. And then there was the figure of Rhodes, who was still sleepy.

There were already only a few adventurers in the surroundings. Though there should originally have been the two women rescued from the Orc village last night, under Hobbes' instructions, along with some adventurers, they had left earlier for the city of Gimuru to inform the guild that the Orc subjugation was a success and were no longer here.

「Ah. All the Orcs I defeated were stored in the Misty Ring like the Orc King. After I return to the city, I was going to strip the materials and proof of subjugation from them.」

Though Rhodes reacted twitchily when he heard the words Orc King, he didn't try to say anything as he had heard the circumstances from Elk and the surroundings.

「Well, it's fine as it's your choice. Why don't you do it here?」

「.....」

Though he was silent for a few seconds, he could no longer endure Elks look and let out a sigh.

「I'm not very good at stripping materials. And because it's a high rank monster, I don't want to fail and have to do it carefully.」

「Kukuku~. I see, I see. No wonder Rei is a G rank adventurer. Moreover, for it to be stripping materials.....」

Though Elk leaked a smile at Rei's embarrassed look, it disappeared with his next words.

「It's a good opportunity. I'll teach you the knack of stripping materials. Come on, take them out, take them out.」

「Wait, dad!? What will happen to our rewards if we spend time with Rei here!」

「That's, you would have to go with Min. There shouldn't be any more enemies.」

「But!」

TLN: I really don't see why you're complaining here Rhodes

As Rhodes was going to argue further, Min tapped his shoulder.

「.....It's pointless Rhodes. Elk won't stop when he's like this. Let's just go by ourselves. Fortunately, as Elk said, there aren't any more Orcs.」

Sending off Rhodes like that, Rei immediately took the Orcs out of the Misty Ring so that Elk could give him tips for stripping materials.

Legend Chapter 41

Legend Chapter 41

That day, the noble who ruled the city of Gimuru, Margrave Rowlocks, received a rude awakening.

There had been a report that Orcs had built a village about a day's walking distance from the city of Gimuru, because of that preparations for battle were made and the Knights readied. There was also the force of able adventurers who were participating in the Orc subjugation force. As the routine work of a feudal lord, it was necessary to process the following documents. And it was in this busy few days he received a letter from the Imperial Capital.

His only salvation was that the busy period would only last until the Orc subjugation was completed. If he was told he had to spend a month under these conditions, there was a possibility Margrave Rowlocks would have given up his job.

At the end of such a busy day, the fatigued Margrave Rowlocks, who had been sleeping like a log, was abruptly woken by a kon~ kon~, ton~ ton~, gon~ gon~ sound as the knocks on the door got louder. He forced his eyes open from the sound.

Margrave Rowlocks got up from his bed and looked around.

It was still dark in the room, he judged that it may not even have been a few hours since he slept.

「What on earth.」

Still, because he was the feudal lord, he put on a robe on top of his bedclothes and opened the door.

On the other side of the door was his secretary, who should have been just as tired as him. However, unlike him, fatigue and sleepiness couldn't be seen on his face. If anything, he had an expression of happiness.

「Lord-sama, I'm sorry for disturbing your night's rest. However, I wanted to inform you as soon as possible.」

「I don't mind, what happened?」

「A little while ago, several members from the Orc subjugation force returned.」

Though Margrave Rowlocks had a bad feeling after hearing the words 'several people', it disappeared as the next words came from the secretary's mouth.

「From the report the people gave to the guild, the Orc subjugation seems to have been completed safely.」

「Really?」

「Yes. Several people came back to report the completion of the request as soon as possible, but.....」

「What's wrong?」

「Because they rescued two women who had been captured in the Orc village, they have hinted that they would like to be left to rest peacefully as much as possible.」

「.....I see.」

A woman who had been caught in an Orc village. The treatment they would have received could easily be imagined.

「Those two, give them a warm welcome. Give them as much support as we can give.」

「I understand.」

「Even so, safely crushed the Orc village.....did they.」

Margrave Rowlocks let out a sigh of relief. If the subjugation force had been defeated by the Orcs, there would be hardly any combat force left in the city that could oppose the Orcs. If he contacted the Imperial Capital, and a force from the Nobles faction or the King's faction was dispatched, there would be various disadvantages at a later date.

(If I think about it, that letter may be convenient.)

Thinking of the letter that had arrived during the day, he immediately shook his head.

At any rate, he could rejoice that the city of Gimuru's adventurers were able to defeat the Orcs.

「So then, what was leading the Orcs? Was it a rare species?」

Recently around here, there had been an increase in reports of the discovery of rare species at the frontier, including the city of Gimuru. The most recent story was that of Goblins led by rare species attacking travelers and merchants passing along the highway.

(.....That reminds me, I haven't heard stories of Goblin attacks for the past few days. Did they realise we've become wary and moved to a different place?)

TLN: *cough* *cough* *cough*

Indeed, as expected, the thought that the adventurer who had brought the Griffon had taken out the rare species never crossed Margrave Rowlocks' mind.

However, the secretary answered the question that he had asked.

「No. According to the story from the adventurers who came back, it seems to have been an Orc King leading the Orcs.」

「.....What? Did I mishear that?」

The Margrave Rowlocks' secretary shook his head from side to side.

「You didn't mishear. It was an Orc King leading the Orcs. The presence of many high ranking Orcs such as Orc Archers, Orc Mages and Orc Generals were also confirmed. Moreover, the number of Orcs exceeded the original information's 50, in fact there was well over 100

Orcs.」

「Wait. Wait, wait, wait. There was a large number of high ranking species in addition to an Orc King. Moreover, there were over a hundred? And they were able to win?」

From the report given by the guild master at the beginning, there were only about 30 people in the Orc subjugation force, it wasn't a number that could against over a hundred Orcs.

「From the story I heard, the A rank party Axe of the Thunder God was the main combat force and defeated the majority of the Orcs.」

「Ah, I see. That reminds me, I had heard that Axe of the Thunder God were participating. Sorry, my brain hasn't seemed to have woken up yet.」

「It can't be helped. In the past few days, Lord-sama has been wrestling with a mountain of documents.」

「Ah, wait a moment. Then, did Axe of the Thunder God defeat the Orc King?」

His secretary frowned his eyebrows slightly at that question.

The contents of the story he had heard were unbelievable and he was lost as to whether he should tell his boss.

「.....Is it different?」

Margrave Rowlocks, who felt his secretary's state, asked again doubtfully. And as if making up his mind, his secretary answered.

「That is, I'm still not sure as this is merely what the adventurers who returned earlier were saying.....」

「Don't be so wordy, just say it clearly.」

「.....A G rank adventurer defeated the Orc King in single combat.」

「Impossible! Speaking of that, isn't the Orc King a B rank monster!? A G rank adventurer.....no, wait a moment. Is there no mistake it was a G rank adventurer?」

「That is the information I have received.」

Hearing the words from his secretary, the figure of Rei floated into his head. At the very least, he didn't know of any newly registered adventurers of G rank that could possibly defeat an Orc King aside from Rei. Rather than that, from the information of the list of members in the Orc subjugation force, the only person with such a low rank, G rank, was him. But even so.

(If it was the Griffon, who is a higher rank, who defeated the Orc King, I could still understand. But, according to the report, the Orc King was defeated in single combat. In other words, this person, Rei, has the capability to defeated a B rank monster by himself?)

To Margrave Rowlocks, his interest and importance of Rei had risen again.

As expected, his drowsiness was blown away after hearing the news and he gave out a list of things to do one after the other.

Though sleep was originally important to let the body rest, Margrave Rowlocks was presently in a state of excitement, joy and relief. With such a variety of emotion, it wasn't possible to sleep at all.

「So then, when does the main group of the subjugation force return?」

「As there's also the cleaning up of the Orc village, they will be back the day after tomorrow at earliest.」

「The day after tomorrow.....Okay, then send a message to the subjugation force the morning the day after tomorrow. When they return, there will be a parade.」

「A parade? However, won't that use up a lot of the budget.....」

「I understand your worries. However, the information that an Orc village had been built a day's walking distance from the Gimuru has already spread around the city. In order to dispel the unease, we have to make it flashy.」

The Orc village subjugation force. They set off with large group of 30 people or so, including an A rank party. It was impossible for it to not cause a commotion, the matter of the Orc village had already spread through downtown. And above all, as the information has already been disclosed through the adventurers guild, it was to prevent rumors about the Orc village becoming crazy rumors and causing the people to fall into confusion. That said, though the scenario of reckless people buying up all the goods from the merchants in the city did not occur, he still felt uneasy about it. If that was the case, Margrave Rowlocks judged that it was necessary to meet with the subjugation force that annihilated the Orc village to remove the anxiety.

「Then.....there must be a hero.」

「A hero, is it?」

The secretary replied in response to the Margrave Rowlocks' mutter.

「Ah. It's the person that can be called the symbol of the Orc subjugation force.」

At that moment, two names crossed his mind. One was Elk, the leader of the party Axe of the Thunder God and a go getter from the city of Gimuru. Margrave Rowlocks had met with him several times for work and roughly understood what kind of person he was. It was expected that Elk would understand his thinking regarding the celebration.

The other person was the one who defeated the Orc King, Rei. He had yet to meet him directly and had only heard from rumors and information that had been written in documents.

(Should I bring up the figure of Rei as a hero as soon as possible?No, it's dangerous as I still don't know what his personality is like. If he has a troublesome character, I may be forced to leave the city of Gimuru if it ends badly. If I consider that the symbol of the Orc subjugation is for the residents of the city, then Elk, who is the leader of the prominent party Axe of the Thunder God, might be better than Rei, who just registered with the guild.)

「Elk, it is.」

「Ha? Ah, no. I'm sorry. Elk it is. I will arrange it at once.」

His secretary thought for a moment about why it wasn't Rei who was said to have defeated the Orc King, but came to the same conclusions as his boss and bowed his head before immediately leaving the room.

His words meant that aside from coordinating with the guild, he would also collect any new information.

As Margrave Rowlocks saw off the back of the figure, he sat down on the bed in his bedroom with a thud.

「Not only is he accompanied by a A rank monster, Griffon, it seems he also has the ability to defeat a B rank monster, Orc King, by himself. If you add on the ability of the monster, Griffon, you could judge his ability to be equivalent to an A rank party. He has that ability and is still rank G.....no, wait. Rank G? I see.」

Glancing around, what came to his mind was the letter that arrived yesterday. The letter asked for assistance with a certain problem.....close to the middle, some requirements were given. Adventurers ranking up to rank D were requested.

「Even if the symbol of the Orc subjugation force was transferred to Elk, there's no changing the fact that Rei defeated the Orc King. Then if he ranked up to Rank E in one go, with his achievements, there won't be any problems with immediately taking the rank up test to rank D.」

Coincidentally, the opinion of Margrave Rowlocks matched that of Hobbes, who was leading the subjugation force.

「There's only disadvantages for the city of Gimuru to leave an A rank equivalent person at G rank.」

Half muttering to persuade himself, he suddenly noticed that the room had become brighter.

Apparently, while he had been lost in thought, the sun had already risen.

In this way, Margrave Rowlocks' busy day started again. However, the fatigue on his face that he had yesterday was all gone, rather, he made his preparations for the parade and started his feudal lord's work happily.

Two days later, several carriages pulled by war horses advanced to the city of Gimuru along the highway.

「A victory parade, is it. And I'll be leading it?」

One of the carriages. Elk's unhappy voice echoed in the room where 5 people, Hobbes, Rei and Axe of the Thunder God, were present.

The reason he was grumbling was because of the parade that he was told off by the messenger who arrived earlier. If it was only that much then Elk might not have been grumbling, however, the contents of the message said that Elk, who didn't like formal events, was to lead the subjugation force from the city entrance to the guild.

「There's no helping it, the story about the Orc village has already spread throughout the city. Margrave Rowlocks wants to dispel all feelings of anxiety.」

Min, who was sitting opposite of Elk, told him to give up after informing him of her thoughts.

「But you know? I don't like being exaggerated.」

「I know that for sure, but your likes and dislikes compared to dispelling the anxiety of the residents. Which is more important?」

「Guh~.....even so, why me, why not Rei. Anyway, wasn't he the one who defeated the Orc King?」

「Don't be so unreasonable. Your name is well known as part of the A rank party Axe of the Thunder God, Rei only just registered with the guild. It's not necessary to think who the residents would accept being paraded.Moreover, if Rei doesn't mind, he can be the spokesman.」

Rei shook his neck to the left and right at Hobbes' words.

「I don't like such troublesome things. That's right.....if it's Axe of the Thunder God, how about you let Rhodes lead? The person who will succeed Axe of the Thunder God, something like that.」

「Oi, are you trying to make me the sacrifice!?!」

Rhodes said in a voice that showed it would be too unpleasant if he had to take the lead.

Though he didn't dislike the event that his parents were involved in, he didn't want to participate in it himself.

「You, calm down. Give up Elk. See, the city has already come into view. We'll stop to form into single file.」

As Hobbes said so, he sounded the Magic Whistle to stop all the carriages.

Legend Chapter 42

Legend Chapter 42

The voices of cheering resounded through the city.

An Orc village had appeared in the immediate vicinity of the city they lived in. It was natural that there would be a parade for the subjugation force that went to defeat it.

「Hey, look at the person sitting at the drivers seat of the first carriage. That's the leader of the A rank party Axe of the Thunder God, it's Elk」

「I know.Rather, hey, over there!」

While nodding to the words of the man next to him, an unexpected existence entered his eyes.

An eagle's upper body, a lions lower body and huge wings on it's back. In other words, it was a

「Griffon!?!」

They had gone to subjugate Orcs, why had they brought something even more brutal back? Although the question entered his mind for a moment and he almost ran away on reflex..... the nape of his neck was caught by the man next to him who had known Elk.

「Hey, what are you doing. We must escape fast!」

「Calm down. It won't attack people because that Griffon is a tamed monster.」

「Haa? A tamed Griffon? Was that a joke!?!」

「It's no joke. Think carefully about it. If that Griffon were a normal monster, why would it be walking next to the carriage together.」

「.....」

If you thought about it carefully, it was possible to understand that the man was right. However, the presence of the Griffon was too overwhelming.

「You, what do you know?」

「Ah. Have you really not heard of the story about the rank D party Claws of the Hawk getting beaten up in front of the guild by rookie who just registered?」

「Now that you say it, I remember hearing such a story.....」

「To tell the truth, I was at that place. So, I mean, the rookie that beat them up had tamed a Griffon. That's the Griffon.」

「.....Really?」

「Ah. That Griffon can also walk around town quite frequently. Try looking around carefully. Can you see anyone running away?」

As the man heard that, he looked around, most residents were certainly not trying to run away. On the contrary, they seemed to be explaining to those who were trying to run from the sight of the Griffon. So, like himself.

Instead, there were people among the residents looking at the parade that were throwing dried meat at the Griffon.

And the Griffon was splendidly catching the flying dried meat in his beak, swallowing it as it was, he was delighted and gave a happy『Gururururu~』cry.

「.....What?」

「A, ahh. Even then, a rookie taming a Griffon.....I can't imagine it.」

「I also thought that at first. It's probably also the same for the people who saw the Griffon walking through town for the first time. However, I haven't heard any stories of that Griffon actually harming anyone. In addition, it has an amazing popularity with the street stall merchants who sell food.Well, it's also the owner of the Griffon who buys their goods like crazy regardless of the expense.」

「Those merchants are amazing.....」

If it were him, he would likely have run away if a Griffon came as a customer. Thinking so..... he suddenly noticed something.

「Hey, wait a minute. Didn't the owner of the Griffon just register with the guild? Did he participate in the Orc subjugation force?」

「Now that you said that, it's likely.....Well, maybe the Griffon was there to deal with the Orcs?」

「Ah, I see.That's great isn't it. Though I don't have a Griffon, if I became an adventurer by taming a strong monster, I can just leave the combat to the monster and profit.」

「Idiot. Do you think he can only tame monsters?」

While smiling wryly, he lightly knocked the guy's head.

『Kya~, look this way Onē-sama!』

At the same time, they heard such voices.

「Ouch, go easy on me.....So, who is that?」

While looking at the appearance of some girls who were raising a shrill voice at a woman in the parade, he asked the man next to him.

「That's certainly.....the C rank party Scorching Wind, led by Milein. As you can see, a lot of the talented younger people treat her an older sister.」

「Onē-sama, is it.」

In this way, the Orc subjugation force parade continued until they arrived at the guild.

「Ah, I'm tired.」

Moving through downtown in full view during the parade, Elk gave a deep sigh as he finally got to the front of the guild and got off the carriage.

Contrary to his energy after fighting against Orc all night, fatigue could be seen carved into his face.

「Kukuku~. It's hard being popular.」

Hobbes gave a wry smile at Elk's state as he also got down from the carriage.

「Ke, you must have been comfortable being inside the carriage.」

「There's no helping it, because only two people can sit in the driver's seat. The residents of the city who see you, the leader of Axe of the Thunder God, will no longer be frightened by the threat of Orcs.」

「.....I know. But can't I complain? To begin with, this is out of character for me.」

「There's no other choice. After all, it was a direct nomination personally from Margrave Rowlocks, the lord of the city of Gimuru.」

「Fun~!」

As Hobbes turned away from Elk's childish face, he spoke up to the other members of the subjugation force who were coming down from the other carriages.

「Everyone, you've worked hard. Thanks to you and the parade, the Orc threat has passed for the city. Well, for now, we will disband here. You don't need to worry about the reward, you will be able to receive it from the guild reception desk by tomorrow. With that, the proof of subjugation parts from the Orc can be sold at five silver coins instead of the usual three silver coins, as said before. In the same way, high ranking species can also be sold at higher prices. However, remember that selling at that price is only because of the reward for the Orc subjugation.」

Everyone nodded to those words, afterwards, everyone scattered to the tavern, the inn, the weapons shops and to second hand dealer shops.

As for Rei, as he was going to go to the nearby dining area and food stalls with Set to fill their bellies.....

「Rei, could you stay for a moment. We have to talk.」

He was stopped by Hobbes.

「Guru~?」

What's wrong? After stroking Set's head and petting him lightly, he turned his eyes to Hobbes.

「Didn't you say the rewards would be given tomorrow?」

「That's for the other people. No, you will also receive your reward tomorrow but that doesn't matter.....I would like to talk with you about your rank for a moment.」

Though he seemed to think a few seconds about those words, he immediately took out several sandwiches from the Misty Ring and petted Set's head.

「Sorry, I have a little business to do. Eat these while waiting at the usual spot Set.」
「Guru~.....」

Leaving Set, who was slightly dissatisfied, Rei and Hobbes entered the guild.

Set who saw off their backs, gave a small cry and went to his usual spot with a sandwich in his mouth.

「Ah, Rei-san, Welcome back.」
「Rei-kun? It's good that you're safe.」

As Rei and Hobbes entered the guild.....or rather, seeing Rei, Lenora and Kenny called out with happy, smiling faces.

「Sorry, but I have to talk with Rei. You can enjoy your reunion later.」

Hobbes said that to the two people and went up to the second floor in the guild, Rei followed after raising his hand lightly in greeting.

As Kenny saw off their backs, she was genuinely relieved and let out a big sigh.

「Ah, that's good. Rei-kun was fine.」
「Yes, though that's certainly something good.....」
「Lenora?」
「Orcs, weren't there quite a large number people in the subjugation force? Though a detailed explanation will be given later, I'm sure that some didn't make it back.」
「.....It can't be helped if it can't be helped. There is a inherent risk in being an adventurer and they knew it when they registered with the guild.」
「Well, though that is so.....the number of faces I'll recognise will drop a little.」

Lenora let out a small sigh.

To begin with, fighting was assumed to happen for adventurers working with monster subjugation, exploring labyrinths or merchant escorts. Though there are also gathering requests, most of them can be easily done by the people themselves without the need to post a request. As for the main requests for the guild, they were mainly things that were too dangerous for the client to do themselves.

Since such danger is present, naturally, there would be adventurers who would die doing their work. Though that was understandable, Lenora still couldn't completely accept it.

「Come now, in any case, didn't most of the people return? Then be a little bit more happy. It's because of that that your body is so poor.」

Poor, though Lenora twitched at those words, she feigned calmness and started to speak.

「I'm not particularly poor. Normal, I'm just normal. Average. I think it's better than a body that is used to curry favour with men.」

「.....Ara~, I wonder who that is?」

「Well, I'm not pointing out to anyone in particular, do you have any ideas?」

「That's right, absolutely. That's why they say that women with small chests are also small minded people. Mm, mm, I feel sorry for Rei-kun who has to be partly under such a woman. If I were you, I would stick to him and talk about and do various things and whatnot.」

「Kenny, really, you!」

In this way, the two people started playing around like this as usual. However, the sad atmosphere which covered Lenora earlier had disappeared and had returned to the usual Lenora.

「Please sit.」

It was the same room where the story of the Orc subjugation force had been heard. Right not, Rei was faced opposite to Hobbes.

Because the first time he entered the room was with the Orc subjugation force, Rei felt that with only two people, the meeting room was wide and dull.

After sitting in the offered chair and facing each for several tens of seconds, Hobbes spoke up to break the silence.

「There's various debriefing to be done after this.....even with regards to Dark Night's Star. But to say it bluntly, your rank will go up to rank E tomorrow.」

「E is it. Even it went up, I thought it would surely only go up to F.」

「Hmph. Given your achievements, E rank isn't possibly enough. Transporting supply goods, Set guarding during the journey, executing your role as a mobile unit during the night attack. And above all, defeating the Orc King. With this many achievements listed, there's no way you would only go up one rank. At any rate, if you were C or D and not G rank then maybe. In addition.....」

Hobbes hesitated to say something at the end. Rei who saw that had a wry smile in his mind.

(Hush money regarding Dark Night's Star.....is that it.)

In the situation that could be considered a crisis for the city of Gimuru, he had attacked an

allied party for his own reasons. If you think about how this could lead to a poor reputation and a loss of trust with the adventurer guild, Hobbes' actions couldn't be considered strange.

「Well, because it seems to be common to apply to the guild for a rank up after handling a certain number of requests, it is less troublesome to jump over multiple ranks at once, I have no complaints.」

「Ah, I'm glad you said that. Because you'll be going to take the rank up test to D rank in the near future, please keep that in mind.」

「.....What?」

Rei asked again, not believing Hobbes' words. As if he had expected that response, Hobbes repeated it again.

「I said, therefore, you will be receiving a rank up test in the near future.」

「I see, the guild is quite generous. Do they want me to rank up three ranks in one go?」

「Well, something like that. I mean, when thinking about your ability tame and Set, your ability is closer to B rank.....I hope that will convince you of your D rank.」

「That's just what I hoped for.....is that okay?」

「It's fine. In the first place, it's strange that a person that can beat an Orc King one on one is in G rank.」

「.....I understand. So when is the rank up test?」

「Who knows, it's difficult for me to say. It's something for the upper echelon and officials to decide and not me.」

Though he said that, Hobbes has the feeling that the date for the field examination wasn't far away. Everyone knows that the employees of the adventurer guild are always short on manpower, above all.....

Hobbes thought about the letter in his chest pocket. The letter was received from the messenger from Gimuru as the Orc subjugation force was returning. There were words praising the Orc subjugation force and information about the parade from just before. And it was also written to promote Rei to rank E and introduce him to the rank up test as soon as he got to the guild.

(Even though I let several people with information leave earlier, this is too fast. Rei's ability is certainly B rank.....and would be comparable to the poorer A ranks. However, this move is.....)

Hobbes himself had written about the rank improvement to rank E in the letter he had sent back to Gimuru, I was also intending to propose the rank up test to rank D to the upper echelon. However, he had only judged so because he had been in the same request as Rei, he hadn't thought that the upper echelon, who hadn't even been debriefed, would be making a move so quickly. In other words.....

(The guild master and the upper echelon have an interest in Rei.No, thinking about it, is it the lord?)

Though originally, he wouldn't be able to assert that that was possible, Rei was accompanied by an A rank monster, Griffon. Thinking about it, he couldn't say for sure that it was impossible.

「Well, anyway, I understand the information. So it's a good thing for me to take the rank D test so soon?」

「Ah, that's the intention.」

Nodding to Hobbes words, Rei stood up from his seat.

Seeing him off, Hobbes felt that Rei would make a pleasant disturbance in the city of Gimuru.

Legend Chapter 43

Legend Chapter 43

The day after the duties of the Orc subjugation force were completed. Due to the fatigue from fighting, Rei slept until noon before waking up due to hunger. After having an early lunch at the Dusk Wheat, he headed to the guild with Set.

Among the people who saw the figure of Set in the parade the day before, there were probably many who were taught of his existence. Different from usual, they only gave cries of surprise at seeing Set at first instead of running away, there were even some people who would give food to Set.

To say thank you, Set gave a cry and shook his tail each time. Seeing that, the person would cautiously pet his head.....and because of this, it was already into the afternoon when they finally arrived at the guild.

「Then, Set, wait for me at the usual place.」
「Guru~」

As Set went to the place he was familiar with, opposite the carriage waiting area, Rei entered the guild.

If there was something different from usual, it was the figures of several adventurers, who participated in the Orc subjugation force, who went and petted Set on the head or gave him some food as a substitute greeting before entering the guild. Receiving friendly attention, he gave a happy cry.

Upon entering the guild, he went straight to the counter without looking at the request board.

Looking around, he saw several adventurers in the guild, but he went to talk to Lenora without bothering them.

「Ah, hello Rei-san. Have you come for the rewards for the Orcs?」
「Ah. Yes, I also want to hand in the proof of subjugation parts as well as sell materials.」
「Yes, no problem.」

Lenora confirmed it as she nodded, A lot of right ears, which were the proof of subjugation, came out of the Misty Ring. The skin and teeth of Orcs, Orc Archers, Orc Mages and Orc Generals were usable materials. Because of the magic power residing in them, the eyes, heart, tongue and back teeth of an Orc Mage could also be used in medicine and alchemy. The internal organs of Orc Generals could be used in alchemy while their bones and tendons could be used for weapons and bowstrings. And then there were the magic stones of Orcs and Orc Archers.

In addition, there were obviously differences in how the materials were collected. There were those that were collected perfectly like Elk's and there were ones damaged here and there like the ones handled by Rei, who was lacking in this area.

「Um, please wait a minute. Kenny, you help me for a bit.」

The reason was that the amount placed on the counter was a lot more than expected. Lenora called out to Kenny who had been next to her, smiling, eyeing a chance to talk to Rei.

As if waiting for that, Kenny approached the counter to continue screening the materials.

「As for this and this, the collection was perfect. This one is useless. This.....though it's close it's still okay.....」

「Hey, Kenny. I did ask you but don't be partial to Rei-san. Because the collection was sloppy, don't put the tongue of the Orc Mage with the quality goods.」

「Ah, really? Un, I feel that Lenora is a bit harsh.....」

While carrying out such an exchange, they processed the materials and classified them into ones that could be used that those that couldn't

「Hey, what's with that amount of materials. Moreover, aren't those the teeth of an Orc General. Why does that brat.....」

Surprised at the mountain of Orc materials at the counter, one of the adventurers who was drinking in the bar in the guild asked his friend who was drinking next to him.

Though the adventurer was amazed for a moment when he saw it, he immediately nodded as he remembered something.

「Ah, you returned to Gimuru this morning.」

「Hm? Ah.」

「Haven't you heard the rumors in the city? That Orcs built a village near the city of Gimuru.」

「Of course I know it. I mean, I've been forced to hear it at the inn and shops ever since I came back to the city this morning. Seriously, if it wasn't for the escort request, I would have joined the Orc subjugation force.....hey, no way.」

Talking up to there, he finally understood what his friend was saying.

「Hey, wait a minute. So what is it? Did even that brat join the Orc subjugation force?」

「That's right.」

「You're kidding? However you look at it, that brat is still in his mid teens.」

「However, did you know, according to the story I heard from some other guys who participated in the subjugation force, that guy killed an Orc King?」

「.....An Orc King? That brat?」

「Ah. And guess what, he recently registered with the guild as a G rank adventurer and defeated an Orc King.Like I said don't be surprised at having to take your words back.」

「G rank.....」

While looking at his friend who was dumbfounded at the contents of the story which was beyond his understanding, he lifted the wine to his mouth with a nasty smile as he was just as astonished when he had heard it for the first time.

「That? Rei-kun. Is this all the materials?」

In front of the counter that was filled with materials, Kenny asked Rei.

「Ah.」

However, Rei only gave a small nod.

「There's still magic stones of Orcs and Orc Archers.....and materials from the Orc King.」

「I'll explain the situation a bit. I have uses for the magic stones of Orc Mages and Orc Generals here. I regards to the material of an Orc King, I'm sorry but I don't want to sell it.」

Because he was only able to get two magic stones each from Orc Mages and Orc Generals, thinking about the possibility that Set and the Death Scythe could learn skills, he couldn't sell them. Similarly, I couldn't sell the magic stone of the Orc King, of which he only had one of.

As for materials, he stored the precious B rank monster materials into the Misty Ring, the same way as with the Queen Ant.

「Un, though I wanted you to sell it if possible.....it's no use?」

Though Kenny said that while emphasizing her proud chest, Rei only shook his neck slightly.

「It's because there are circumstances for the time being.」

「Is that so.....well, it can't be helped. Then, are you selling all these?」

「Ah.」

「With this quantity, you might have to wait a little because it will take a while.」

There was no helping it as that much was that much, in the meantime, he looked at the request board until the assessment and appraisal were completed.

(Because I heard I'll be going up to rank E today, first of all, I'll look at the D rank and E rank monster subjugation quests.)

Muttering in his mind, he only looked at the subjugation requests, he suddenly discovered a urgent request.

「.....Dragon Lizard?」

Yes, a subjugation request for Dragon Lizards with a request rank E was pinned there.

(Is it a Dragon? Or is it a Lizard?Ah well, because it's rank E it's certainly a Lizard, it's too a low rank if it's a Dragon.)

Rei, who was concerned about the strange name, took out the monster dictionary, that he had bought in the bookstore, from the Misty Ring.

『Dragon Lizard』

Though it had dragon in it's name, it's species was a large lizard. However, it was called a dragon because its size was larger than that of an adult human. Since it was a lizard, it obviously didn't breathe fire, but because it's attacks boast a considerable strength, it required care when fighting.

Though its toxicity was weak, it's fangs contained a poison that dulled movements. Because it was a lizard, ice magic was it's weakness. Moreover, it would not falter due to pain from injuries. For this E rank monster, the tip of the tail was the proof of subjugation. It's selling price was 1 silver coin. In addition, it's meat had a strong taste which gourmets liked.

(A giant lizard.....though it's interesting.)

「Rei-san, the assessment of the material has been completed.」

Being called by Lenora, he stored the monster dictionary into the Misty Ring and headed to the counter.

「The reward for proofs of subjugation, the purchase of materials and magic stones and the reward for the Orc subjugation quest, adding individual achievements all together.....the reward comes down to 9 platinum coins.」

The moment Lenora said the amount of money at the counter, adventurers inside the guild who had secretly been watching Rei became noisy.

「Hey, you're kidding? Isn't 9 platinum coins the average reward of a rank A or rank B request?」

「Idiot, that kid Rei played an important role during the Orc subjugation.」

「That's amazing, how about he enters our party.」

「It's useless. Isn't one of the rumors he defeated an Orc King?」

「.....Really?」

「Ah. I mean, think about it. The reward of the Orc subjugation is two platinum coins. Even if there are materials and proofs of subjugation, will it amount to 9 platinum coins? You won't reach that amount unless you defeat the enemy's leader.」

While hearing such conversation, he received the 9 platinum coins from Lenora, took out a pouch from the Misty Ring to put the money in and stored it back into the Misty Ring.

「.....That's convenient as usual, isn't it. Ah, because your rank has also gone up, please hand over your guild card.」

「Ah, that's right.」

After collecting the guild card and heading to the back of the counters, she returned after a few minutes. Though she tried to look calm, her face had the colour of unrest.

「Here you go, it's returned. Rank up, congratulations. But, that.....」

「I was surprised that I suddenly went up to rank E, right?」

「Yes. That, to be honest, I was pinching my cheeks thinking that it was a dream.I've been a receptionist here for several years but it's the first time I've seen a person rise 2 ranks from a single request.」

「Uwa~, really? As I thought, you're amazing Rei.」

Hearing Lenora's words, Kenny looked at Rei's guild card.

Certainly, the guild rank had been changed from G to E.

Hearing Lenora and Kenny's words, the guild became noisy again, but he stored the guild card into the Misty Ring without minding it.

「Well then, thanks for your help.」

「Have you picked up a request for today?」

「As expected of yesterday, I'll be slowly spending today with Set.」

「Ah, that's a shame. When I'm free after this, lets go to a place and drink together.」

「Wai-, Kenny!? What the hell are you thinking?」

Though Lenora's angry voice came out at Kenny's invitation to Rei, she waved her hand at Rei without caring to explain.

While smiling wryly at the state of the two, he left the guild with a light goodbye.

「Gururu~」

As Rei came out of the guild, Set greeted him with a happy cry.

Though there were a few adventurers and residents nearby, Set gave a short cry and left the place as soon as he saw Rei.

Some of them sent Set off with regretful faces.

To the changes in the surroundings, Rei recalled the events from several days ago as he scratched Set's head while smiling involuntarily.

「I've kept you waiting. Then let's go out.」

「Guru~」

Giving a small cry at Rei's words, the headed towards the gate on the main street.

「Huh? Another request right after yesterday's?」

Rei handed the Necklace of Subservient Monster and guild card to Ranga, who was in charge of the procedures.

「No, not at all. However, I thought I'd take a short trip with Set in the sky.」

「I see. Ah, as I said before, please don't take off or land near the city.」

「Ah, I understand.」

「At the same time, congratulations on your rank up. Still, to rank up two ranks at once. That's amazing.」

Ranga said that as he saw that the rank displayed on the guild card had changed from G to E, Rei gave a small smile.

Ranga seemed satisfied and returned the guild card to Rei.

「Well the, I'll return the guild card to you.Rei-san.」

「Yes?」

「The Orc subjugation, thanks for your hard work. As a commander of the security force, I wish to express my gratitude as one of the residents in the city.」

Rei was taken aback for a moment by Ranga's lowered head but immediately put up a wry smile.

「Don't worry about it. I also obtained various things from the request. As you said, my rank also went up. I myself have also set up residence in this city of Gimuru. It was fortunate that the danger of the Orcs was avoided.」

Lightly waving his hand, he sat on Set's back as they moved a short distance away from the city.

「Set, I'm counting on you.」

「Gururururu~!」

With a sharp cry, he flapped his huge wings after a run up of a few steps before stepping into the air and going up into the sky.

Although there were thinly spread clouds, unlike yesterday's weather, they weren't rain clouds. If anything, Rei felt that in this summer weather, it was like a small thunder cloud.

As Rei was wearing the Dragon Robe, which could be called a simple air conditioner, he could bathe in the sunlight mindlessly without caring for the temperature as Set flew for several hours.

However, it was a distance of a few hours by Set's wings. If a person were to walk normally along the ground, it would take a whole day, several days if there were issues.

Naturally, there was a reason to go that far from the city. The purpose was to perform the absorption of the magic stones that he had gotten from the Orc subjugation.

Rei looked down at the ground while flying through the sky and discovered a clearing in the forest where no trees were growing. Looking roughly at the surroundings, the figures of monsters or adventurers couldn't be seen.

「Right, Set. Go down there.」

「Guru~」

Giving a small cry at Rei's words, Set landed at the designated location. After landing on the ground, he quickly looked at the surroundings.

As Rei sharply looked around, he also took the Death Scythe out of the Misty Ring in case of a surprise attack by a monster.

「.....This seems to be okay.」

「Gururu~」

In the surrounding area, there were only young saplings covering the vacant land, in particular monsters hostile to Rei and Set could not be seen.

No, though there were monsters like Horned Rabbits for which there were G rank subjugation requests, they had all ran away at full speed from Set's overwhelming appearance.

「Now then, it seems there isn't anything to stop the absorption of magic stones here.」

With that, he took the Orc meat and magic stones, for Set's meal, that he had gotten from the Orc subjugation without even glancing at the Misty Ring.

Legend Chapter 44

Legend Chapter 44

「Gururu~」

Set gave a cry when Rei took out a magic stone from the Misty Ring.....not really, it was when he took out the meat of the high ranking Orc species.

After defeating the Orcs, their corpses had been immediately stored into the Misty Ring. Set had been looking at the meat while Elk had been helping with stripping materials and magic stones. Incidentally, Elk had cut down the meat to a nice size.

.....Of course, because they were busy with various things, Set didn't have an opportunity to eat the meat.

Though Orcs were tentatively classified as demi humans, it didn't really matter in this world.....no, in fact, because the higher ranking species of the D rank Orcs contained a lot more magic power than lower rank monsters on the market, it was a delicious dish. Rei was told that by Elk as well as a butcher in town.

「Here!」

It had been two days since they returned to the city from the Orc village. The food that Set had received at the inn and from adventurers and residents wasn't enough. Set caught the thrown Orc meat into his mouth skillfully and swallowed it.

(As for absorbing magic stones, I'll wait until Set finishes first.)

Watching Set eat the Orc meat with great gusto, even though he had eaten lunch at the Dusk Wheat, his stomach's hunger prevailed, cutting a branch from a tree, he stabbed some Orc meat on and stuck it into the ground.

Collecting dead wood from trees that fallen nearby, he used magic to start a fire and spit roasted the Orc skewers. He sprinkled some salt he had taken out from the Misty Ring onto the surface before bringing it to his mouth.

「It's certainly delicious.」

Orcs were D rank or higher and the meat contained magic power besidehaving rich taste. Because of that, he was able to fully enjoy the taste of the meat with just a simple salt seasoning.

「Guru~.....」

Until then, Set had been hungrily eating raw meat, but he had eaten cooked Water Bear meat at the campfire in the Forest of Monsters as well as the skewers in the city before. Because of this, Set gave an envious cry at Rei who was eating the Orc skewers, Rei gave a wry smile at this scene and spit roasted a share of skewers for Set.

「Guru~」

After eating the meat from several Orcs that came from the Misty Ring, Set gave a satisfied cry.

Rei took a break while stroking Set's head, feeling the wind flowing through the trees.

The scent of nature in the wind. If you listened carefully, you could hear the sounds of birds and insects or beasts and monsters. While listening to such sounds, Rei took out the magic stone of an Orc from the Misty Ring.

Though he had sold almost all of the magic stones at the guild, he set aside two of each for Set and the Death Scythe.

「.....Right. Break time's finished. Set, start absorbing the magic stone.」
「Guru~!」

Set also gave a happy cry at Rei's words, he understood that his own power would increase if he absorbed the magic stone.

「First of all is a magic stone of an ordinary Orc.Because a skill was learnt, even from an E rank goblin rare species, I think there may be a possibility.....Set!」

Calling out, he threw a magic stone towards Set.

Dexterously catching it in his beak, he swallowed it just like that.....the announcement message from when a skill was acquired did not occur, there didn't seem to be any changes in particular.

「Nothing happened, it seems.」
「Guru~」

Set gave a regretful cry.

Just to make sure, he brought up the list of Set's skills in his mind, as usual, there were only two, Fire Breath and Water Ball.

「What is the criteria for learning skills?」

While muttering, he threw out one of the remaining Orc magic stones into the air, striking in one blow with the Death Scythe.

Cutting it in two with the blade, though it disappeared like smoke.....the Death Scythe was also unable to acquire a skill.

「I just wasted 2 magic stones. Well, at the very least they were only magic stones of ordinary Orcs.」

While spitting out a sigh, next, he took out a magic stone of an Orc Archer from the Misty Ring.

「Set.」

Throwing the magic stone of the Orc Archer like the one from before, Set caught the magic stone in his mouth before swallowing it.

【Set has learnt the skill『Wind Arrow Lv.1』】

And an announcement message echoed in his mind.

「It seems something was learnt. Even then, Wind Arrow? When he thought of Set's skills, Fire Breath and Water Ball, it seems Wind Arrow was next.....well, perhaps it was a hobby of Takumu or something. More importantly, the Orc's magic stone was yellow. In other words, a earth attribute magic stone. Yet, a wind skill was acquired? Or was it because it was a magic stone of an Orc Archer? Set, try using Wind Arrow on that tree over there.」

「Guru~!」

Nodding at Rei's words, he looked at a tree located a bit further away as instructed. And.....

「Gururururu~!」

At Set's cry and thoughts, something invisible shot from Set at high speed, sharply cutting several places in the tree trunk.

However, the power wasn't very strong for a LV.1 skill, the depths of the cuts in the tree trunks were only a few cm deep. It didn't have the power to cut the tree trunk in half. Instead, it had a different use, its launch velocity was clearly faster compared to a water ball.

「Though it's power is lower than that of Water Ball and Fire Breath, Wind Arrow can be used in close combat because, as its name says, Wind Arrows are invisible.」

「Gururu~」

Set gave a happy cry at Rei's words. While giving a side look at that, Rei threw the remaining Orc Archer magic stone into the sky before cutting it in two like before. At that moment, the magic stone disappeared like smoke.....

【Death Scythe has acquired the skill『Flying Slash Lv.1』】

An announcement message echoed in his mind.

「Flying Slash, is it. Well, reading it, it's pretty self explanatory.」

Readying the Death Scythe, he aimed at the tree that Set had hit earlier with the wind

arrow.

「Flying Slash!」

Invoking the skill while wielding the Death Scythe, the slash flew as according to the skill name.....hitting the tree.

At the point where the flying slash hit, the tree trunk was cut much deeper than Set's wind arrows. However, while more than one wind arrow could be shot at once, the disadvantage of the Flying Slash was that only one could be sent out.

「I see. Wind Arrow can fire more projectiles but the power of a single Flying Slash is higher. Well, next is the magic stones of the Orc Mages.」

Though it was a little different from what he had expected, Rei still nodded satisfied as he took an Orc Mage magic stone from the Misty Ring.

Similar to before, he allowed Set to absorb it.....

【Set has acquired the skill『Fire Breath Lv.2』】

An announcement message echoed in his mind.

「Hou~, Fire Breath Lv.2 is it. Set.」

「Gururu~!」

Set realised what Rei was asking and opened his beak towards the sky.....flames were spat out.

The flames spat out from his mouth were thicker compared to when it was Lv.1. They also traveled further. He could also see that the temperature of the flames was higher than before.

「Guru~?」

How was it? He turned to Rei and rubbed his face against him.

「Ah, as expected of Set. A good flame.」

Being praised while his head was scratched, Set gave a happy cry.

「Now then, next is the Death Scythe.」

Moving away from Set, he threw the magic stone of the Orc Mage into the air and struck it down with the Death Scythe.

In the same way up to now, the magic stone of the Orc Mage vanished like smoke after being cut in two.

【Death Scythe has acquired the skill『Magic Shield Lv.1』】

And an announcement message flowed through his mind.

However, Rei frowned his eyebrows slightly as he looked at the Death Scythe.

「That's it, is it?」

While thinking that in his head, he prepared the Death Scythe for a test.

「Magic Shield!」

At the same time Rei shouted, a shield of light appeared in front of Rei. When Rei saw it, he brandished the Death Scythe, hoping that it wouldn't interfere with the shield of light. As he brandished the Death Scythe, the shield of light automatically moved to not get in the way.

Confirming it's movement while brandishing the Death Scythe, he erased the magic shield after stopping.

「Automatically moving certainly isn't bad. But while it isn't bad.....」

While muttering, he turned his eyes to the Dragon Robe he was wearing.

The robe was made with the skin of dragons, naturally, it had a strong magic defense. Moreover, because dragon scales were placed in between the two layers of the robe, the average sword, spear and bow could not damage Rei's body through the Dragon Robe. However, though it could prevent damage to Rei, it couldn't prevent the shock from a heavy weapon such as an axe or hammer.

「.....Speaking of usefulness, is it in that sense? Magic Shield!」

Making a magic shield appear, he moved it in front of Set.

「Set, try to attack the Magic Shield.」

「Gururu~!」

Nodding at Rei's words, he swung down with his sharp claws at the Magic Shield!

Then, as the Magic Shield took the blow perfectly, it vanished into mist the next moment.

「.....Hm? Magic Shield! Set, one more time. This time with the Water Ball.」

「Guru~!」

To Rei's words, Set shot a water ball. Same as before, the magic shield blocked the attack before disappearing like mist.

「This is, so can it block a reasonably powerful attack? Set, next is Wind Arrow.」

「Gururu~!」

According to Rei's words, he shot a few wind arrows. Though it was able to block the first one like before, the magic shield disappeared the moment the attack was blocked, just like before. The remaining wind arrows cut through the grass that was behind the shield.

「I see, it can only block once but it can block a fairly powerful attack. At the same time there are 3 methods of control, automatic, semi-automatic or manual. You can also cancel it just like before.」

A shield that would automatically defend him. Moreover, it had no weight. Unlike a shield, it wasn't necessary to keep it in his hand either. Though it had a big drawback of disappearing after blocking a single attack, taking advantage of his enormous magic power, Rei could just use Magic Shield again with no problems.

Dragon Robe and Magic Shield. It would be difficult to get through both defenses.

「Well, there's no skill that can't be used. Because it's different from corrosion and look like magic, there's no need to hide it. Next is the Orc General. Set.」

He threw out a magic stone as soon as he took it out of the Misty Ring. Set caught it in his beak and swallowed it.

While looking at that situation, the next step was to see what skill would be acquired, but.....

「.....What?」

The announcement message that a skill had been acquired did not come.

「What happen? Isn't it a magic stone of a rank C monster?」

As he muttered, an announcement could not be heard.

「Guru~.....」

Set also gave a disappointed cry.

While looking at the situation, Rei formed an idea in his mind.

(A skill wasn't acquired from the C rank Orc General. In comparison, a skill was acquired from magic stone of the goblin rare species. Could it be that the acquisition of skills isn't related to the rank or strength of the monster? In that case, what's the requirement for learning skills? Is it affinity? Well, in the end, I can't get back a magic stone that has been absorbed to try to acquire a skill.....no way, I didn't expect that a skill wouldn't be acquired from the magic stone of a C rank Orc General.No, wait. Then, would the Death Scythe also be unable to acquire skill from the magic stone of an Orc General?)

While having a bad feeling, he threw the magic stone of the Orc General into the air and struck it with the Death Scythe.

The magic stone was split in two as in the case with the other magic stones.

And the announcement.....didn't happen.

(I see. If Set can't learn a skill from a magic stone, then is it impossible for the Death Scythe as well? Well, both Set and the Death Scythe were made from my magic power using the Magic Beast Art.....no, I can't say that just because both were made by me.)

What's done is done, it can't be helped, letting out a deep sigh, he changed his mood.

「Though it's a shame that skills can't be acquired from the magic stones of Orc Generals..... but for the time being, the last one. The magic stone of the Orc King.」

He took out a large magic stone from the Misty Ring, it was one size larger than the magic stone of the Water Bear, which had been the largest magic stone he had seen until now.

The magic stone in his hand had the yellow, ground attribute, he held it, weighing up between Set and the Death Scythe. After a while, he gave a small nod and called out to Set.

「Set, you absorb the magic stone of the Orc King.」
「Guru~?」

Is that okay? Set seemed to say as gave a cry and tilted his head to the side.

Rei nodded while smiling at that.

「Ah. The Death Scythe already has Corrosion, Flying Slash and Magic Shield. Since I got a long distance magic attack that was my weak point, you should absorb the magic stone of the Orc King. Here.」

Here you go, Set caught the magic stone of the Orc King that was thrown in his beak and swallowed it, similar to before.

(If it's the magic stone of an Orc King, I think that it wouldn't be possible to not learn a skill, but.....)

As though Rei's wishes were heard, an announcement message flowed into his mind.

【Set has acquired the skill『King's Awe Lv.1』】

To the fact that Set acquired a skill, Rei let out a sigh of relief.

However, he immediately tilted his head in confusion.

「Set, what kind of skill is King's Awe?」
「Guru~!」

Yes. He wasn't able to judge it's effect from the skill's name, the effect of King's Awe couldn't be predicted. Set understood the skill, unfortunately, he couldn't explain it as he

couldn't speak words.

「Gururu~」

To provide evidence for Rei's thoughts, Set ran up into the sky, found a Horned Rabbit and landed on the ground in front of it.

「Pyi~!」

Surprised at the Griffon suddenly appearing in front of it, it tried to escape at full speed.....

「Gurururururu~!」

Set gave a loud cry, the speed of the Horned Rabbit fell slightly. And not missing the chance, Set killed it with his beak and sharp claws.

「.....I see.」

Rei muttered as he saw Set eating the Horned Rabbit that he had defeated.

Now he finally understood the effect of Set's King's Awe. As according to it's name, it would intimidate enemies, inhibiting their movement. Though it's effect on monsters at different ranks would have to be investigated properly, there was no doubt that it was a useful skill.

「As expected of the magic stone from the Orc King. Though I wanted to share it with the Death Scythe if it was possible.....I guess I'll wait for the next opportunity.」

After Rei finished acquiring and inspecting skills and Set had finished eating the Horned Rabbit, they returned to the city of Gimuru.

【Set】

『Water Ball Lv.1』『Fire Breath Lv.2』new『Wind Arrow Lv.1』new『King's Awe Lv.1』new

【Death Scythe】

『Corrosion Lv.1』『Flying Slash Lv.1』new『Magic Shield Lv.1』new

Wind Arrow: Shoots 3~5 arrows of wind. Though it's power isn't high, its effect is that they are hard to see because the arrows are made of wind, the arrows also have the characteristic of flying fast.

Flying Slash: A skill that causes a slash to fly out. It's power is reasonably high, but only a single slash can be created at a time.

Magic Shield: Creates a shield of light, preventing a single enemy attack. It vanishes like mist after blocking a single attack. In addition, so as to not interfere with Rei, it will automatically move with him, it is also possible to move it manually with his consciousness.

King's Awe: For enemies weaker than yourself, their speed can be decreased by 10%. However, it has no effect if the enemies are at an equal or higher class.

Legend Chapter 45

Legend Chapter 45

Early morning, the day after learning a large number of skills. The figure of Rei could be seen in the guild as usual. Set was already lying at his reserved location and gave happy cries as he was given food by adventurers going to the guild and passersby in the city.

「Set-chan, has become so popular in town.」

As Rei was looking at the request board, a person suddenly called out to him.

When Rei turned face the the voice, he saw the figure of Milein, the leader of Scorching Wind from the Orc subjugation force, who had fought the Orc King's group with him.

「Are you also looking for requests over here?」

「Requests.....as expected of Rei? Normally, after a large request, most would take a one week break.....」

While saying that, Milein's eyes glanced over the request forms that were attached to the board.

After looking at them, Milein turned her eyes back and gave a slightly embarrassed but bitter smile.

「Ahh, to tell the truth, our armour and weapons were damaged during the Orc subjugation.And not just mine, Excel and Sulunin's weapons and armour were also damaged. So, almost all of our rewards were spent repairing or buying replacements.Well, it's still a good opportunity as we were thinking of getting new weapons and armour. Because of that, we were looking at doing a new request as soon as possible. 」

Listening to Milein's words, Rei directed his gaze to her armour and the weapon at her waist.

Certainly, the equipment was different from the ones he had seen at the time of the Orc subjugation, if Milein's words were to be believed, they were of a higher quality than before.

A little bit further away, Excel and Sulunin could be seen looking at the request board like Milein. When they noticed Rei, Excel waved in greeting while Sulunin gave a polite nod.

And while returning the greeting to the two, Milein suddenly hugged Rei from behind.

「Hey, Rei. If you're looking for a request, why don't you do a quest together with us? Come on, Set-chanI mean, Rei's ability is dependable.」

Realising Milein's plan from her words, Rei gave a wry smile.

If you excluded Axe of the Thunder God, Milein was probably the first adventurer to befriend Set, at the same time, Milein was also one of Set's favourites.

However, Rei wasn't able to immediately agree to Milein's words.

After all, Rei primary and secondary purposes were the magic stones of monsters and the materials and rewards from them. And if he partied with other adventurers, if Rei wanted the magic stones, it was likely that there would be trouble. Basically, excluding some special exceptions, the magic stone was the most valuable part of the monster.

「Milein, you shouldn't be so unreasonable to others. Every person has their own circumstances.」

Seeing Rei's troubled face, Sulunin chided Milein.

「That's right. Though Milein likes Set a lot, you shouldn't be excessively unreasonable.」

「Muu~.....but you know.」

As Milein was chided by not just Sulunin but Excel as well, Rei found a certain request form.

The contents of the request was the investigation of another forest near the Forest of Magic, there was no rank requirement but it required 5 people.

(Should I accept this quest with Scorching Wind? Fortunately, as the Seed of Contract has been placed inside of them, even if I ask for the magic stones, they probably won't inquire much further about it.)

「Milein, what you think of taking this request together?」

「Huh? Really!? Which request?」

Milein looked at the request form at Rei's words, smiling ear to ear. However, her expression clouded immediately.

「Hmm, a forest investigation.....the reward is large for such a request. However, because not much is know about that place, hence the investigation, I don't know what kind of monsters will appear there. However, I want to be with Set, and there's also Rei's fighting power.....hmm.....what do Excel and Sulunin think?」

Milein asked her party members while staring at the request form.

In the first place, Scorching Wind was a rank C party while Rei was a rank E adventurer. Normally, they wouldn't be able to receive a quest together unless the request had no rank requirements, like the one Milein was looking at. Though technically speaking, Scorching Wind could receive a rank E request, to receive a low rank request with low rewards was pointless if they wanted to earn money.

As for requests that had no rank requirements, their rewards were often either extremely low or high with a matching risk. In this case, concerning the investigation into the forest near the Forest of Monsters, if anything, it was the latter kind as what monsters would appear was unknown.

The request to subjugate the Orc village, which Rei and Scorching Wind participated in, was also categorized in this group.

「I'm sorry but I would like to object. I have not yet become familiar with the cane I just bought and the degree of risk is unknown, I would like to refrain from this request.」

「That's true. I'm sorry Milein-san. I also haven't completely mastered the new bow I bought either.」

While looking apologetic, Milein let out a sigh at the two who were shaking the necks.

「Is that right. Well, if you say it can't be helped then it can't be helped. There's no helping it, we'll have to give up on it. I'm sorry Rei. It's impossible for us.」

「No, I don't mind. Because I'm staying at the Dusk Wheat, Set is staying at the stables. You can play with him there if you have free time.」

「Yep, I'll visit for sure. Well, we're in the area. Unless we earnestly search for a good request, we won't be able to pay the rent for the inn.」

Milein let out a regretful sigh and went to the rank C request board with Sulunin and Excel.

Seeing their backs off, he started looking for a good request for himself.....while he was thinking about it, he again noticed someone approaching him.

If you saw him approach while obviously looking at Rei, anyone would understand that he was looking for Rei.

He was in his late teens to early twenties. For an adventurer, the equipment he was wearing wasn't particularly high quality. However, the sword equipped at his waist was different, it was something that attracted a lot of looks.

(A Magic sword, is it?)

It was like the battle axe which Vargas from the Claws of the Hawk had or the great sword that the Orc King used. They were all weapons with hidden magic power. In other words, a magic item. Because of the magic power they contained, they tended to attract looks from the public eye, that was why even Rei, who couldn't sense foreign magic power, could tell if it was a magic item.

As for the sword at the waist of the man approaching him, the sword gave off an atmosphere of a magic item, that was why he was able to judge that it was a magic sword.

「You are Rei, right?」

Rei gave a small nod as the man stopped in front of Rei and asked.

「Ah. And you are?」

「I'm Arogan. A rank E adventurer.」

Rank E adventurer. In other words, he was at the same rank as Rei.

However, Rei was a rookie who had just become rank E the day before.

「So, Arogan, do you need me for something?」

「Ah. I had gone out of the city of Gimuru for a request, though I came back this morning..... and I heard a strange rumor here and there.」

「Strange rumor?」

「An impossibly crazy rumor that a G rank adventurer defeated an Orc King.」

You don't believe it? As Rei looked back, saying so with his face, it was clear that he didn't believe Rei, the adventurer in the rumor, had defeated the Orc King.

(Jealousy, is it? Well, either way, he's not a decent opponent for me.)

Muttering in his mind, he let out an unnatural sigh.

「Hey, what's with the sigh?」

「So, how can I help you?」

Being ignored and asked what he wanted, the blood rushed to his head.

But though the blood rushed to Arogan's head, after clicking his tongue as if he didn't care, he started to speak.

「What, it's simple. I want you to have a match with me. I want to see your ability that defeated the Orc King.」

In other words, he wanted what Rei was expecting. Rei turned his eyes to the counter for a moment.

Although she wanted to stop it, because Lenora had been ordered to report to her boss if Rei got tangled up with someone, she had already left to carry out her job to report to her boss and couldn't be seen. Instead, maybe as compensation, Kenny half scowled with eyes of anger at Arogan who was messing with her favourite, Rei.

「And what benefits will I receive from this match?」

「Huh?」

What are you saying? Arogan's face seemed to say as he looked at Rei.

Arogan had planned to pick a fight and provoke Rei into an unconditional fight, however the plan had simply failed.

「Hey, hey, is that kid serious? Picking a fight with Rei even though he's still E rank.」

「.....From what I've heard, did he say Arogan? That fellow wasn't in the city of Gimuru for a while. There's nothing that can be done, it can't be helped.」

「Ah well.....not knowing anything about Rei but picking a fight with him. At any rate, he does look small and has a delicate appearance.」

Though the noise of adventurers speaking in low voices echoed through the guild, Arogan was staring at Rei and didn't hear any of it.

In the eyes of the adventurers, Arogan was like some sort of hero. However, he was a hero in the sense that he was like a brave man attacking a dragon with a club.

Anyhow, Rei had scored a decisive victory against the D rank party Claws of the Hawk by himself on the first day after registering with the guild. Because he took away all their money and equipment that they had on hand, even if it was unpleasant, his behaviour stood out. Because the Claws of the Hawk were still spending each day busily to return their debt, they looked sympathetically at the unlucky adventurer who had encountered the seemingly frail and weak Rei.

And, as the surrounding people saw a while ago, the young man was on good terms with the rank C party Scorching Wind, which had begun to distinguish itself as a party. It should be noted that he also had an association with the A rank party Axe of the Thunder God.And above all, most adventurers in the guild were reminded of the figure of the Griffon outside the guild.

Rank A monster, Griffon. Fighting against Rei automatically meant making an enemy out of the reaper of the sky.

But, only just returning to town and hearing the rumor, Arogan went straight to Rei without understanding anything. Anyway, he judged that Rei had just gone up to rank E because of an influential person while he himself was at the stage where he would soon be taking the rank up test to rank D.

In a sense, it could be said that this was one of the prices of fame.

「Anyway, you should fight me. That way, I can properly assess your ability. Or what is it? If you can defeat an Orc King, don't you have the confidence to fight an E rank adventurer like me?」

(I see. He's a type similar to Seryl from Dark Night's Star.)

Believing only what they wanted to believe in, that was the only reality visible to them.

The only difference was that he hadn't been completely corrupted by it. If he hit him where he was most overconfident in, Rei judged that Arogan wouldn't make the same mistake as Seryl did.

(But then, I don't really need to do that either.....)

「I'm trying to say, whether I can beat you or not is a different thing. I'm asking you to show me the benefits of having a match against you.」

「.....That's, then what do you want?」

「Ha? What are you talking about? You want to fight me? What if you can't pay the price?」

「Guh,.....b-but it's only to check your skills.....all right. If you beat me, I'll give you 3 silver coins. How about that?」

「.....Well, that's fine. It will be troublesome if we make any more noise here. So, where do you want to do it?」

As it would be stupid to continue it any further, he prompted the other party to go ahead.

Finally hearing that Rei had brought himself to fight him, he turned his eyes to the guild door, full of confidence.

「It won't take too much time or effort. We'll finish it outside the guild.」

Saying that, Arogan started walking towards the outside of the guild. Spitting out a sigh, Rei followed and went through the door to the outside.

「Now, ready your weapon.」

Arogan nimbly took out the magic sword at his waist from its sheath and pointed it at Rei.

Rei also took out the Death Scythe from the Misty Ring and readied it.

Passersby gathered around curiously, Arogan's aim to embarrass Rei in front of this crowd was obvious.However, because some people had heard of a similar exchange where the Claws of the Hawk had disgraced themselves, the looks that Arogan was expecting were directed at him instead of Rei.

In addition, as for Set who had seen Rei come out, he stood up to look at the commotion before Rei stopped him with his eyes. Set closed his eyes and went back to sleep

「I see, that's the item box from the rumors.」

Hearing Rei had an item box from the rumors, he turned his eyes to the Misty Ring that was on Rei's right arm and licked his lips.

While ignoring that, Rei observed the sword that Arogan had.

(As expected, his excessive confidence is thanks to his magic sword. I don't think that it's a magic sword that a rank E adventurer should have.....where did he obtain it.)

As for the magic sword that Arogan had, a red pattern rose up from the black sword blade. As for the power of the blade, one could feel that the magic sword had a considerable hidden power.

「Here I come!」

Giving a short cry, Arogan kicked the ground and swung down his magic sword.

However, the speed at which the sword was handled was slow.....no, it was too the extent it could be called sluggish.

It wasn't skillful and had no strength.

It was certainly powerful enough if you considered an E rank adventurer. However, compared to the time Rei fought with the Orc King, who had a similar magic great sword, it was an attack he could easily evade while yawning.

Lightly taking a step back, he swept the Death Scythe from below, catching the tip of Arogan's magic sword that passed right in front of his eyes. At the same time, he caught the sword blade in his blade.....and threw it into the sky!

Arogan's magic sword and the Death Scythe made a kin~ sound as they came in contact. The next moment, Aragon's sword flew high into the sky. It drew an arc while spinning wildly before piercing into the ground near Aragon.

As for the people that were speaking, the surroundings, including Arogan, were silent.

Rei stored the Death Scythe back into the Misty Ring as he looked at the surroundings before calling out to Arogan.

「No matter if the weapon is first class, the wielder is only third class.....」

Rei's voice resounded not only to Arogan but also to the curious spectators in the surroundings.

Legend Chapter 46

Legend Chapter 46

It had been 5 days since the fight against Arogan.....or rather the farcical show. In the afternoon on this day, Rei could be seen in the meeting room on the 2nd floor of the guild.

Yes, the meeting room where Hobbes had given the description of the Orc subjugation force.

Other than Rei, the figures of 5 other adventurers could be seen in the meeting room. A total of 6 people, including Rei. These were the people taking the rank up test to rank D.

In addition, among them, the figure of Arogan could be seen, his original plan of spreading his name had been carried out in the opposite meaning after the farce with Rei. The moment their eyes met, as Rei walked into the meeting room, if you observed Arogan's expression as he quickly glanced away, you could understand his feelings about Rei.

(The rank up test, is it?)

The day before, Lenora, who could be said to be in charge of Rei, had called out to him as he entered the guild. He recalled the conversation he had with Lenora at that time.

『Ah, Rei-san. About the rank up test, because it will start tomorrow, please come to the meeting room in the early afternoon tomorrow.』

『.....That's awfully sudden. Can't you inform us in advance normally?』

『Well, you're certainly right. However, in the end, this part of the adventurer rank up test. For urgent and emergency requests, as there would be no time, would you be able to ask for them to wait a little longer?』

『Indeed, that's certainly true. So tomorrow afternoon?』

『Yes. Registering with the guild and taking the rank up test in under a month, this is the fastest time recorded in the city of Gimuru. Please do your best.』

While recalling such a conversation, he turned his eyes to the other people who were also taking the rank up test.

First of all, needless to say, was Arogan. Nevertheless, even if he disgraced himself in that event the other day and was a rotten person, he had a magic sword at rank E. His personal skill aside, since he had a considerably high quality magic sword, he liked to fight by pushing forward with raw power.

2nd person. It was a woman who had her hair cut short to allow easy movement. As with her hair, she wore leather armour, made from the skin of some monster, so as to not obstruct her body's movements. She had two daggers at her waist. She might be a thief, who's job was to scout ahead and handle traps. Her age looked to be in her late teens.

3rd person. Wearing a robe on his body, similar to Rei, he held a cane in his hand. This man was a typical magician and had a plain face. As Rei was looking around, the man smiled at him before continuing to talk with the previous woman, who was sitting next to him. He was

probably acquainted with the her. His age also looked to be in his late teens.

4th person. It was a male warrior who had a sharp gaze. His equipment was overwhelmingly inferior when compared to Arogan's magic sword, it was a common long sword that could be bought in the city. However, Rei felt that his ability as a warrior was better than Arogan's. His age was similar to Arogan's, probably in his early twenties.

5th person. Sitting on a chair was a woman with her eyes closed. If anything, it could be said that she had decent features. What should be mentioned specially were her ears. She had ears with a much sharper point compared with ordinary humans, that showed that the woman was an elf. Seeing the the large bow placed on the table in front of her, she was probably an archer. She appeared to be in her late teens.

(Then there's me, it seems. I wonder what kind of test will be held.)

While thinking about that, his eyes coincidentally met those of the female thief.

『.....』

They stared at each other in silence for a few seconds. In the end, the female thief's patience ran out and she spoke out.

「Do you have any business with me?」

「No, nothing in particular.」

「But you were staring at me just now. So what do you want? Or what, are you trying to hit on me right now?」

「Wai-, Culotte. Suddenly picking a fight. Umm, I'm sorry. Because Culotte is taking the rank up exam for the first time, she's a bit tense. Please don't mind it.」

The male mage who was sitting next to Culotte, the female thief, bowed his head as he apologised for her.

「Scola, why are you lowering your head. This is a bad fellow. Staring at people indecently.」

「Ah, come on. I'm sorry. I'm really sorry about this. I'm sorry.....I mean, usually she isn't this stubborn.....」

「Don't worry about it. I don't really care about it at all.」

「What, is my worth to you.....」

「It's noisy.」

In the room with Culottes noisy cries, a voice suddenly sounded. Aside from Rei, who had felt a person coming towards the meeting room, the others reflectively turned their eyes to the voice.

A man in his mid forties could be seen. However, with his trained body, it would be fair to say he was comparable to an active adventurer.

「Hey, I will begin the explanation of the rank up test. Are you all ready to listen?」

(.....I should have seen his face somewhere. If I'm not mistaken.....ahh, it was during the dispute with Goblin Drool.)

That was right, it was the person who had determined Rei had enough fighting strength to get to rank G after the dispute with Claws of the Hawk, it was Gran.

While remembering his face, Rei turned towards Gran, ignoring Culotte.

Culotte probably also realised who Gran was. She scowled at Rei for an moment before finally turning her eyes towards Gran.

In addition, Scola turned to Gran after giving Rei another apologetic bow.

「Now then, it seems that everyone is ready to listen. Then I'll begin the explanation of the rank up test to rank D immediately. First of all, I'll have you fight each other.」

The moment Gran said that, Arogon who had watched Rei's exchange with Culotte indifferently, looked at Rei, startled.

It had only been 5 days since he had been reminded of the difference in fighting strength. The colour slowly drained from his face, if he had to fight Rei, he had no chance of winning.

However, Gran continued to talk as if to reassure Arogon.

「That said, you won't be disqualified immediately just because you lose the fight.Well, I won't deny that it will be referred to during the assessment. The main purpose of fighting each other is to learn each others abilities. So, for the compulsory part of the rank up test, you will have to clear a bandit hideout about 2 days from here. The bandit subjugation is the trial for the rank up test.」

Subjugating bandits, after that was said, the meeting room fell dead silent.

Because everyone was here to take the rank up quest to rank D, they had more or less only received requests up to E rank. Though tentatively speaking, it was possible to receive a request one rank higher, hearing of the barrier between rank's E and D from senior adventurers, there were very few adventurers who would take rank D requests at rank E.

Because of that, there were less requests at rank E and more at rank D. There was also a clear difference when the target of a subjugation request were humans, such as bandits.

In this world, fighting monsters was a daily occurrence. However, there were still a lot of people opposed to the act of killing a person. Therefore, the type of request for subjugating bandits and the rewards from it were normally higher than rank D.

「Although everyone here seems to know the circumstances, a request to subjugate bandits or act as escorts to merchants and travelers is rarely D rank and is usually higher. In these types of requests, if you hesitate to kill the enemy in a dangerous situation, your companions or the people you are escorting might be killed, that's the worst thing that could happen. The

former is still better, in the latter case, there will be an issue relating to the trust of the whole adventurers guild. That's why, the rank up test to rank D is basically asking you to kill people.」

Only Gran's words could be heard in the meeting room, the people taking the rank up tests, listened quietly.

However, among them, Rei wasn't as strained. After all, He had killed the 4 members of Dark Night's Star with his own hands during the Orc subjugation request. Though it wasn't that he wanted to kill a people willingly, he had no weakness such as hesitating in an emergency.

There was also one other person.

(Him as well, it seems.)

It was the warrior other than Arogan, whom Rei had glanced at earlier. Though he was concentrating on listening to Gran's words, he didn't have the feeling of being tense like the others. With just that, Rei more or less understood that he probably had a similar experience in killing people.

「Now then, that's all the information. Then I'll have you fight each other at once. Since you have come to take the rank up test, I assume you've naturally brought the weapons you use? Follow me.」

Saying that, Gran left the meeting room. Rei followed next.

「Listen up, because there's a training ground at the back of the guild, you will fight there.」
「Training ground?」

To Rei's unintentional words, Culotte looked at him with an amazed face.

「I'm shocked. Didn't you know there was a training ground at the back of the guild. And you managed to get to rank E.」

「Ahh, come one. Why do you keep lashing out at him. I'm sorry, I'll be glad if you don't mind Culotte's words.」

「Don't worry about it.」

He thought about the training ground while a wry smile floated onto his face at the combination of the pair.

(Goblin Drool and Arogan, when they fought me, why didn't they use the training ground and fought with me in front of the guild insted.Ah, I see. They wanted to defeat me in front of a crowd of spectators.)

While understanding somewhat, he followed Gran to the first floor of the guild. As Kenny saw the figure of Rei, she gave a small wave. As a wry smile floated onto his face at the scene of Lenora admonishing Kenny, he stepped out the back door of the guild.

Continuing walking for a few minutes, the training ground Gran mentioned could be seen.

That said, it didn't mean that there was particularly high quality equipment. It was just a wide space surrounded by a fence, there wasn't even a roof.

The training ground had a considerable size, it was at the size where a simulation battle between knights could be carried out. Currently, there were about 10 people scattered around, training in the training ground.

「Hm? Hey, what's that group over there?」

「Ah, you know. With Gran leading rookies, it's probably the rank up test.」

「Ahh, I see.」

The voices of the adventurers who were exchanging blows with sword and spear could be heard by Rei. Maybe the other people were also interested in the training, all their eyes were focused on the people following Gran.

Whether or not Gran noticed those looks, he moved to the center of the training ground.

However, there was no wonder. It was like this at every rank up test. After all, if they could add a promising rookie to their parties, the possibility of surviving a dangerous request would increase. The number of parties who wanted rookies, who were like uncut gems, were endless.

「Hey now, you lot. Don't get distracted by all the looks around you. Even though I said the results of the mock battle won't be directly linked to the results of the test, it doesn't change the fact that they will be referred to. First of all, introduce yourselves. First, your name, then your occupation, the all the skills you have that you want to make known. First, starting from you.」

The person who Gran pointed out, or should it be said arranged before hand, was Rei.

To Gran's grin, Rei gave a wry smile and started to speak.

「I'm Rei. My occupation is a magic warrior. My weapon is.....」

He took the Death Scythe out of the Misty Ring and swung it. Just one swing. With just that, all eyes were glued to Rei and the Death Scythe.

「This large scythe, the Death Scythe. I am also proficient in fire magic.Also with respect to taming?」

Should he talk about Set here? Indirectly asking Gran, Gran replied with a small nod.

「I've also tamed a monster. Though I think some of you may already know, it's the Griffon that's lying down in the carriage waiting area at the guild.」

「Wai-! So you're the one that killed the Orc King!?」

Griffon, realising who Rei was at those words, Culotte unintentionally cried out.

「Hey, killing the Orc King, surely.....」

「Ah, that's right. Though there certainly was a story that an adventurer called Rei had killed the Orc King, I heard he was at G rank.」

「In that case, he went up from G rank to E rank for his achievement of defeating the Orc King, then to the rank up test for D rank?」

Voices could be heard from the surroundings here and there including all the rank up test participants, except for Arogan.

「Hey, quiet down, the rest of the self introductions still haven't finished. Next, you.」

Clapping his hands with a pam~ pam~ sound, Gran caught everyone's attention before pointing to the next person. It was Culotte, the female thief.

Culotte, who was looking at Rei, shocked, pulled herself back together after Scola gave her a slap on the back.

「I'm Culotte. My occupation is thief. My main weapons, as you can see, are daggers. As for my skills, well.....I'm good at scouting and placing traps.」

「I see, a thief, is it. You'll be playing an active part in this test in various ways. Next.」

Next was Scola, who was beside Culotte.

「I'm Scola. My occupation is a mage, there are no weapons I'm particularly proficient at. As for magic, I can use water, wind and healing magic.」

He finished the self introduction somewhat tensely because of the observation from not only the rank up test participants but also the other adventurers.

Gran turned his eyes to Scola with admiration after his self introduction.

「Hou~, you can use healing magic in addition to attack magic. Your future is quite promising.」

A mage. Normally, one strong in attack magic would be weak in healing magic, vice versa, one strong in healing magic would normally be weak in attack magic. Therefore, mages like Scola who were proficient in both attack and healing magic were small in number. It wasn't an exaggeration to call them a rare existence among mages.

「Our party has been keeping an eye on him.」

「Hey, are you trying to steal a march?」

「Like they say, first come, first serve.」

Hearing such voices, he was glad to hear himself being evaluated as such. Scola looked down with a smile, his cheeks red in embarrassment.

「Next.」

Next to be called out was Arogan. Worried at Rei's glance, he pretended not to mind it before speaking up.

「I'm Arogan. A warrior. My weapon is this magic sword. I'm confident in my skill with regard to direct attack power.」

「A magic sword at rank E, moreover, it seems to be quite powerful.If it can be mastered, it's power would be phenomenal.」

Maybe he knew about the dispute with Rei that had happened a few days ago, Gran indirectly hinted that it was currently a useless treasure before looking at the next person.

Hearing those words, Arogan fell silent and frowned his eyebrows slightly without retorting.

「Next.」

The next person was the male warrior with sharp eyes who seemed to be the only person aside from Rei who had experience in killing people.

「Supervia, swordsman. My weapon had no particular background, unlike the one Arogan showed previously. It's a long sword. I have no particular skills aside from my ability as a swordsman.」

「.....I see. There seems to be no issues with your weapon. Next.」

For an instant, Gran seemed to see right through Supervia's weapon, before directing his gaze to the last person.

The female elf carrying the large bow gave a small nod at Gran's glance before starting to speak.

「I'm Firuma Patron. My main weapon is a bow. My occupation is ranger, or spirit mage. As for skills, I can use spirit magic to some extent, as I said before.」

At her words, the training camp became noisy again. That was a matter of course. Not only was it a beautiful elf, who usually stayed in forests and wouldn't go out to cities, she could also use spirit magic.

Elves, it was known that from children to the elders, they were masters of the bow. In addition, because they had a greater magic power than most humans, they were superior as mages. As for those that could master both, they were rare. Their scarcity was similar to mages who could use both attack and healing magic, as said before.

And, Firuma Patron. The fact that she had a surname showed that she was one of the elves that had left their homes.

As for Gran, he had a grin after hearing Firuma's self introduction.

「Hou~. Though it's already rare to see an Elf, to be able to use both the bow and spirit magic. Then there's Rei and Scola, this time's harvest is pretty good.」

Muttering, he glanced at the test participants who had completed their self introductions.

「Well, a simple self introduction is good enough. The next step is to get to know each other's respective abilities in a mock battle. Anyway, you guys will have to subjugate bandits by yourselves. It's better to experience each other's strength yourselves. First round.....Rei and Supervia.」

Gran spoke out, selecting Rei and Supervia.

Legend Chapter 47

Legend Chapter 47

The training ground at the back of the guild. Opposite Rei was Supervia, another test participant who was taking the same rank up test.

As usual, the Death Scythe was in Rei's hands. In Supervia's hands, he was holding a long sword.

「I'll say this first, in the end, this is a mock battle. The aim is to examine each other in the open and know their abilities, the real rank up test is subjugating bandits. Don't get too heated about it.」

Rei, Supervia and everyone else who was there nodded at Gran's words.

「Are there any questions?」

Rei spoke up and asked Gran.

「Though I have my combat style, my main battle style is in combination with Set.....is it not possible?」

「Of course. If you brought your Griffon to rank D's and rank E's, it won't be a match anymore. It's prohibited. For your information, during the bandit subjugation, you're prohibited from using your Griffon. Even if you said that taming is one of your skills, can you always have the Griffon at your side? The test you are in right now is strictly to test your own strength.」

「Ah, taming is my power too.....but I guess I understand.」

Naturally, he nodded at Gran before spitting out a sigh. He readied the Death Scythe against Supervia, opposite him.

Rei felt lucky that he was able to receive such advice and observed his opponent without minding what he had been told.

(.....Heh~)

He voiced his admiration in his mind as he faced Supervia, who had his weapon poised.

It was because his posture with the sword was excellent. Of course, there were various flaws compared to Milein, who he had worked with in the Orc subjugation force. Still, he looked to be a lot more skilled than Arogan, who relied on the raw attack power of his magic sword.

Similarly, Supervia raised his caution as he confirmed the position Rei had set the Death Scythe in.

(Though he introduced himself as a magic warrior.....if anything, he probably leans towards the warrior side. He is also considerably skilled. Watching like this, I can't find a gap.

However, his weapon is a large scythe. With it's length, if can get right up to him, it will be hard for him to cope. Then!)

「Haaaa!」

Raising a voice with fighting spirit, he kicked against the ground and at his fastest speed, dived towards Rei's chest.

(I'll strike the first blow at his chest. If I do that, I have a chance of winning.)

Thinking that for an instant in his heart, he concentrated his consciousness on the assessing initial movement of the huge scythe as Rei began to move the Death Scythe.

「Here!」

The moment Supervia entered Rei's range, he tried to parry the scythe with a sweep of his long sword, but.....

Catching part of the Death Scythe, trying to parry it.....Supervia was blown away together with his long sword by the overwhelming weight behind the single blow from the Death Scythe.

「Gaah~!」

Flying through the air for nearly 10m, he finally stopped his movements after bouncing several times along the ground.

His entire body felt like it was hit by a hammer. Inside the training ground, it was dead silent.

「Guh, damn.....what's with that attack.....」

Still, he was someone taking the rank up test. Supervia used his sword to support him as he staggered up, his feet unsteady from the attack. He turned towards Rei.

Rei looked with surprise at this situation.

「Heh, he can still stand after that attack. That's a little unexpected. I was surprised for a moment.Do you still want to continue?」

「Of course.....ha!」

While staggering on his feet and losing his balance, he tried to gather that momentum to charge again.....

「That's enough!」

Gran's voice stopped Supervia's movements.

「Examiner, I can still continue.」

「While staggering on your feet? I said it before, in the end, this is a mock battle to find out

the power of your companions for the bandit subjugation.」

「.....I understand.」

Spitting out a deep sigh, Supervia dragged his still unsteady legs to his original position.

Rei saw that as well and moved to a place a bit further from Supervia

「.....Hey, was I imagining things? That person seemed to have been blown away」

「No, it's not a dream. It's reality. Look, see over there. There are furrows left on the ground.」

「That's right. Looking from a spectators viewpoint, that scythe is huge, it must have a considerable weight and a destructive power. However, that Rei is small and slender. With such a physique, how can he have that much power. I mean, is his rank E a lie?」

「Well, I did expect that.」

「Expect?」

「Ahh. Think about it. Didn't that guy defeat the Orc King, a rank B monster? For a ordinary E rank.....no, at that time he was rank G. Anyway, it's impossible for a low rank adventurer to defeat an Orc King.」

「Ah, well, if you say it like that then certainly.....even then, the high quality of his weapon aside, his skill is also top class, his physical strength is top grade as well. Adding to that, he's accompanied by a rank A monster, Griffon. At the same time, he can use fire magic.If you can add him into a party, his combat power would be life saving.....」

An adventurer with a sword muttered involuntarily while watching Rei.

However, the adventurer with the spear shook his head from side to side.

「Certainly, there's no doubt that he's a top grade adventurer if you look at just his combat power, but they say his character is equally strong.」

「Character is strong?」

「Ahh. A typical example is his dispute with the Claws of the Hawk at the guild on his first day after registering.」

「That reminds me.....」

「His combat strength maybe high, but he's the type that won't follow the instructions of the party leader unless he's convinced by it.」

While listening to such a conversation, Gran, who had overseen the fight against the Claws of the Hawk, called out.

「Next, Arogan and Culotte. Step out.」

「Tch, a woman.」

「Hey, wait, what about a woman! Don't take it so lightly. I may not look like it but even I have the ability to take the rank up test.」

Culotte snapped back at Arogan who was muttering. Gran gave a sigh while looking amazed at the two people.

「Arogan, ability is what is needed to be an adventurer. Not gender. Culotte, you as well.」

Even in the meeting room, you were hounding Rei. At the very least, if you want to be a D rank adventurer, a lack of coordination is an issue.]

「.....Hmph.」

「Sorry about that.」

Arogan gave a scornful hmph at Gran while Culotte apologised obediently. In that way, Arogan readied his magic sword and Culotte readied her daggers as they faced each other.

「Though I've already said this to Supervia, this is a mock battle to see each other's strengths. Don't get too heated.Begin!」

Along with the signal to start, Culotte moved her body forward quickly, a method particular to thieves.

In order to meet it, Arogan pulled his magic sword from its sheath.

Before the start of the mock battle, Arogan had taken that attitude to fool Culotte, there was no carelessness in his eyes. No, instead, he was observing Culotte's movements rather seriously.

「Haah!」

From the self introduction, Culotte had heard that Arogan's sword was a fairly high level magic sword, in the fight, the full power of the sword was displayed.No, he tried to display.

Along with a sharp cry, the tip of the dagger was thrust out. According to Culottes aim, Arogan would not be able to deal with the dagger thrust at his neck and she would win.

However, the tip of the dagger never reach the figure of Arogan. Maybe he had read Culotte's aim or maybe it was an intuitive judgement. Arogan sharply kicked against the ground and jumped backwards. Kicking against the ground the moment after Culotte's attack, he slipped around to Culotte's side and held his magic sword close to her neck.

Seeing the glossy black blade held close to her neck, Culotte instinctively held her breath.

「That's enough. The winner is Arogan!」

Gran's voice echoed into the surroundings, when Arogan heard it, he released his sword from Culotte's neck and sheathed it.

Culotte, who's confidence had been lost at her instant defeat, went back next to Scola while repressing her vexation.

Though Arogan was going to move back, he stopped at Gran's words.

「Is the effect of the magic sword physical reinforcement?」

「Well, something like that.」

「I see, then I take back the words I said earlier. It can be said you have sufficient mastery of the magic sword.」

「.....But, I was snubbed by him.」

Arogan muttered in this mouth as he looked in Rei's direction.

A few days ago during Rei and Arogan's fight. At that time, though he had strengthened his physical ability using the magic sword like just before, his weapon was unceremoniously knocked away. As for the fight just now, he had confidence in his own power, his heartbeat increased as he felt proud about it. Yes, against people like Culottes for example, who was in his line of sight.

「In the first place, that fellow is so out of standard that it's strange for him to be in rank E, you don't need to worry about it.Well, that's fine. Go back.」

At Gran's words, he glanced at Rei for a moment before immediately looking away and moving back to his original position.

And while looking at Arogan's back, the two adventurers with the sword and spear discussed their impressions of the fight.

「How do view that fight?」

「Well, about that. Should I say, it couldn't be helped? In the first place, isn't that girl a thief? Asking a thief to fight a warrior head on is just unreasonable. He even had a magic sword.」

「Ah well. A warrior's job is to fight, a thief's job is to scout and clear traps, if it can't be helped, it can't be helped.」

「But, if she can pass the rank up test, she will receive an intense number of invitations as a thief.」

「Ah.」

Warrior and thief. When registering with the guild, an overwhelming number were warriors, thieves had fewer numbers.

After all, the thief occupation required a lot more specialised techniques compared with the warrior. And unlike the warrior, who was active in combat, there were fewer opportunities to be recognised. Therefore, the number of people aiming to be a thief adventurer was rare, although not to the same degree as mages.

「Now then, then next is the last mock battle. Scola and Firuma. Step out. Ah, Firuma will fight purely using magic without the bow this time.」

「I will do my best.」

「Spirit magic only?Well, it can't be helped.」

To Gran's voice, Scola and Firuma came forward in front of everyone. Scola showed his will to win on his naive face. Firuma barely showed any change in her facial expression as she put the bow and quiver in her hands onto the ground.

Though the two people were facing each other like this, Scola spoke up before Gran gave the signal to start.

「Hey. To use spirit magic, don't you need a magic casting tool?」

Looking at his cane, Scola called out to Firuma.

To Scola's words, Firuma nodded her head with a small smile.

「Yes. However, it is not necessary to use a magic casting tool to use spirit magic. There is no problem as long as you can communicate with the spirits and befriend them.」

「Heh, that's convenient. That's nice.....can I also use it?」

「I wonder. If you can see spirits, hearing from a story, you might be able to befriend them.」

「That's enough talk. Though I've told you all already, this is a mock battle to examine each other's abilities, don't get too heated.Then, begin!」

At the same time as Gran's signal, Scola began chanting a spell while pointing his cane at Firuma.

Similarly, Firuma also called on the spirits she had befriended.

『Wind, turn into an unseen arrow to pierce those before me.』

Scola's incantation warped the world and an invisible arrow was created before his eyes.

『Wind Arrow!』

At the same time the magic was completed, several arrows were fired. The invisible arrows from the spell darted toward Firuma. However.....

『Wind spirits, shield me.』

From the few words that Firuma spoke, the spirits of the wind responded by creating a barrier of wind around Firuma.

The wind arrow's speed increased as they drilled into the barrier, trying to pierce it. After a few seconds of struggle, the wind barrier won out and the wind arrows shattered.

『Spirits of the land, break his steps.』

As soon as the wind barrier disappeared, Firuma spoke again. But rather than the spirits of the wind, she called out to the spirits of the land.

「-!?!」

Scola heard that and immediately sprung back. The next moment the ground where Scola was standing sunk down by several cm.

While seeing that, he once again jumped back toward Firuma while pointing his cane and

casting a spell.

『Water, turn into a whip to strike my enemies!』

According to his incantation, the water at Scola's hand formed into a whip.

『Water Whip!』

With the completion of the spell, the water whip was raised.....and swung down!

However, Firuma evaded the whip's attack with a light movement specific to elves and advanced forwards, reducing the distance to Scola.

『Spirits of the wind, spirit of the land. Bind him.』

「.....Eh?」

Though Scola tried to swing the whip down as Firuma came close, he suddenly noticed that dirt was wrapped around his feet, at the same time, his body's movements were restricted by wind.

And the moment he realised his difficult situation and tried to do something about the dirt and wind, the figure of Firuma was already in front of his eyes with a palm directed at Scola.

「That's enough! The winner is Firuma!」

Gran's voice echoed through the training field at the same time, all the mock battles had been completed.

Legend Chapter 48

Legend Chapter 48

「Now then, you should have a rough understanding of each other's abilities.」

Gran told the rank up test participants who were standing in the training field in front of him.

As for the people who heard it, some gave a small nod, others smiled and some listened to Gran's words in frustration.

「Though I've said it many times, these mock battles are simply for you to know each other's strengths for the bandit subjugation. You shouldn't be too concerned about it. So, the next decision is who will be the leader of this temporary party.....」

Muttering, Gran looked at the 6 faces one after the other. With each person wanting to be the leader, they held their breaths waiting to see who would be nominated. Meanwhile, Gran's fixed his eyes on a certain person.

「Rei, you are now the leader.」

And he was told so.

「What? Me?」

Rei put on a surprised face at Gran's words. However, Gran nodded to that question without any hesitation.

「Ah. To be blunt, the level of your fighting strength can't be called D rank at all. Anyhow, you have the ability to defeat an Orc King. However, in your case, in the end, you're only an individual with high combat power, it has become a necessity for you to act alone. Though it might still be okay at E rank, every now and then at D rank, it will become necessary to work with other people in a group. Because of that, for people like you who are bad at social interaction, you have to do something about it to rank up. At the very least, you have to be able to have a minimum level of communication.」

As Gran pointed out his reasoning with his words, Rei could only keep his silence. He was aware that he wasn't that good at dealing with other people. And if it was said that it was a requirement to rank up, Rei did not have the choice of not taking on the responsibility of a leader.

「I understand. I'll assume the role of the leader.」

「I hope you all are ready. Rei will be the leader of the temporary party until the bandit subjugation for the rank up test is completed.」

At Gran's words, everyone gave a nod.

.....However, each of them had a different facial expression.

「Right, well then, I'll give you the details of the bandit subjugation immediately. First of all, I've explained that the bandit hideout is about 2 days distance from the city of Gimuru. I will guide you there. I mean, as I'm the examiner, I have to follow you anyway. We will depart tomorrow morning. We will meet at the front gate at the 9 o'clock bell. The guild will provide a carriage for travel. Any questions?」

At Gran's words, Culotte spoke up.

「Though the guild will supply a carriage for us, what about other supplies? In particular, food and potions.」

Hearing Culotte's question, Gran smiled with a grin.

「Only the carriage is provided by the guild. Other necessary supplies are to be provided for yourselves. Naturally, the supplies which each person prepares will be assessed, so be careful.」

Next to ask was Supervia.

「You said a group of bandits, how many are there specifically?」

「I've heard that there will be at least 20.」

「.....I see. Minimum, is it.」

Supervia nodded in understanding at Gran's reply. Because he was at the Orc subjugation, Rei was also able to understand.

「Are there any problems with the words 'at least'?」

Arogon didn't understand the reply and asked Supervia. He turned his eyes to Scola and Culotte, who were next to him, equally puzzled.

「It looks like there are a few people who don't understand. Rei, this is your first job as the leader.」

Prompted by Gran, Rei spoke with a sigh.

「The fact that there is a minimum of 20 people means that there is likely to be more. That means there is a possibility there could be 40 or even 100.」

Arogon and Scola were frightened at those words.

However, Firuma continued from those words to reassure the two people.

「That said, as this mission has been selected for the guild rank up test, there probably won't be an unreasonable number.」

To those words, the two people gave a big sigh of relief. However, Gran again spoke up with a nasty smile.

「Though this certainly is a guild test, however, safety isn't guaranteed. You'll die if you let your guard down.Now then, any other questions?」

To Gran's words, nobody spoke up. Confirming that, Gran directed his eyes to Rei.

「Rei, 1 demerit. Since this is a request, you should have asked about the rewards as the leader.」

「.....Ah, I understand.」

Seeing that pointed out, Rei gave a small nod.

Requests were a means for Rei to obtain magic stones, as for the rewards itself, he usually didn't mind them because he didn't really care about it.

「Though it seems like a small matter, there is a possibility of getting into a dispute with the client if the rewards aren't agreed on first.Well, though you don't need to worry about it if you take a request from the request board in the guild, above D rank, you may occasionally be asked for a request without going through the guild. In cases such as that, you should inquire about the reward before hand, don't forget what I said. By the way, the reward for the rank up test this time is 1 silver coin per person.」

Everyone nodded at Gran's words.

「Now then, we will leave it at that for today. Although I said this earlier, because we will be departing at the 9 o'clock bell, I want everyone to be there with their belongings prepared. And though I'm repeating this again, Rei, you are not allowed to bring your Griffon.」

With his words as a signal, everyone left respectively.

While watching the members of his temporary part leave, Rei involuntarily let out a sigh.

He had never thought that he would end up as the party leader, but even then, the problem was.....

(What to do with Set, is the question. Two days there, two days back. Including the time there, maybe a fifth day. Moreover, that's assuming there's no trouble. Assuming a margin of 2 days, that's a whole week.I can't shut Set in the stable for a whole week.....in that case, I can only entrust him to an able person.....no, wait.)

At that moment, what came to Rei's mind was the figure of Milein. She knew their extraordinariness to some degree, further more, she was one of the few people who he had friendly contact with. He didn't need to worry about her either as he had planted a Seed of Contract in her. Moreover, he understood by looking that Milein was quite considerably attached to Set.

「It seems the problem then is whether I can find them before tomorrow.....」

Giving a small murmur, he walked back into the guild without hesitation.

「Lenora, I want to get in contact with Milein from Scorching Wind, is there a easy way?」

Though he looked around the inside of the guild when he re-entered, there was no sign of Milein or Scorching Wind. As it was already well into the day, the chances of bumping into adventurers in the guild was small. He called out to Lenora at the counter without feeling discouraged.

「Scorching Wind's Milein-san, is it? If it's her, she should return to the guild this evening to hand in a request.」

「Do you know the approximate time?」

「No, as expected.....I'm truly sorry.」

「Ahh, no. Don't worry about it. I was also being unreasonable. Then, can I leave a message for when Milein gets back?」

「There's no problem with that.」

To Lenora's words, Rei let out a sigh of relief.

If he wasn't able to leave a message, he would have had to wait in the guild until Scorching Wind came back.

Though most of the things he needed to go out were in the Misty Ring, he was still missing some things. He wanted to replenish his supplies as well as buy some useful items.

「Ah, Rei-kun. Are you trying to flirt with someone while I'm still here?」

While looking at Rei and listening to his interesting conversation with Lenora, Kenny, who was next to them, called out.

Rei shook his head with a wry smile at the situation.

「Not a message in that sense. As you know, I'm taking the rank up test, and it seems I can't bring Set along as he is too strong. Having said that, I felt bad to keep Set in the stables for a week and thought about asking Milein to take care of him in the meantime. Fortunately, Milein is quite happy with Set.」

「I see. It certainly is a problem if you took that kid to the rank up test for D rank. I understand, I'll relay the message for you.」

「Then, please tell them to come to the Dusk Wheat after they hand in their request. I'll explain Set's matter there.」

「Okay, leave it to me.」

「Tch. I feel like I'm being left out.」

As Lenora nodded at Rei's words, Kenny turned her eyes to Rei, somewhat dissatisfied.

After finishing eating dinner at the Dusk Wheat Pavilion, he was relaxing in his room when

there was a knock at his door.

「Rei, you there? I got the message from the guild.」

「Ah, wait a moment.」

He put on the Dragon Robe that he had taken off to relax, slipped on the Shoes of Sleipnir and opened the door.

Aside from Milein, who he had been looking for, the other members of Scorching Wind, Sulunin and Excel, could also be seen.

「I roughly heard the story from Lenora. So you want to leave Set with us for a while? For now, we've all come over as this involves all of Scorching Wind.」

「No Problem. Please come in.」

Nodding to Milein's words, he invited the three people in front of his door into his room.

Though it was a bit uncomfortable to squeeze 4 people into a 1 person room, everyone either sat on the floor, chair or bed.

The first person to start speaking was naturally Milein.

「So, about Set-chan, are you serious about entrusting him to us?」

Though Milein asked that, her face was smiling, full of expectation. As Milein had become obsessed with Set, it was a good time ask them to take care of Set.

「Ah. Though you probably heard it from Lenora at the guild, I'm prohibited from taking Set into the rank up test. That said, I will be away for at least 5 days. I would feel bad for locking Set up in the stables for up to a week.」

「He has the Necklace of Subservient Monster and everyone likes him. If it's Set-chan, surely he'll be welcomed by everyone in town?」

「Milein, that's a little unreasonable.」

It was Sulunin, the brains of Scorching Wind, who replied to Milein's words.

「Even if he's wearing the Necklace of Subservient Monster, as expected, if a high rank monster like a Griffon is walking through town without his master, even if the adventurers know Set, there is a possibility that residents who don't know Rei or Set, or have just come to the city of Gimuru, will panic.」

「Ehh~, even though Set-chan is so cute.....」

「As what Sulunin has said is reasonable, I can always find someone else to take care of Set. Of course, there are advantages with watching Set. You can think of Set as an extra combat force and take requests while I'm on the rank up test.How about that?」

At Rei's words, Milein welcomed it and her face clearly brightened up, Excel also seemed to agree as a smile floated onto her face. As Milein was about to speak up to commit to taking care of Set.....Sulunin interjected again.

「Though we can certainly take care of a tamed monster for a short period of time, often there can be circumstances while looking after one.....though I haven't heard of such a story. However, in the case your tamed monster causes any problems, as the master, you have to take full responsibility.....is my proposal understandable?」

TLN: Just a note here, when Sulunin says tamed monster, he isn't being trying to be rude, he is just referring to Set as Rei's tamed monster in a more formal sense as this involves legal matters, I may not have conveyed this meaning well in the translation so I apologise for that.

「I have no problems with that. This is because I trust you guys, even if anything comes up, Set is clever.」

Hearing Rei's words, Sulunin turned to Milein and gave a small nod.

「I understand. You can trust us to take up the task. As for the increase in combat power increasing.....as Set is a Griffon, I have no complaints.」

With this, all members of Scorching Wind consented to taking care of Set for the duration that Rei was away from Set, subjugating bandits for the rank up test.

However, Rei and Scorching Wind all felt slightly guilty when Set heard it as he looked gave a small cry and looked at Rei with lonely eyes.....

Legend Chapter 49

Legend Chapter 49

The day after Scorching Wind's promise to take care of Set, Rei walked with Set down the main street to the main gate before the 9 o'clock bell.

Seeing Set walk down the main street, adventurers and residents who recognised Set gave him food such as dried meat, bread and fruit. But today, Set didn't accept anything and only gave a small cry.

「Hey, is Set okay? He usually eats my dried meat happily.」

A boy about 10 years in age asked anxiously as he tried to give Set some dried meat, Rei gave a wry smile and spoke up.

「Kind of. He's feeling lonely because I have to leave him for a while for a request. Well, if you keep playing with him, maybe he'll forget about it, don't be too discouraged.」

「Yes!」

The boy replied cheerfully. Rei scratched Set's head as he watched the boy run away.

「Set, cheer up. As I said yesterday, it's just one week. And if everything goes smoothly, I'll be back in 5 days.」

「Guru~.....」

Set gave a rather small cry.

He calmed Set by stroking his head followed by his back. The main gate soon came into view as he advanced down the street, enjoying the silky feeling.

「Ah, Rei-kun. You took a request today?」

Ranga saw the figure of Rei and called out to him.

「No, it's the rank up test. Give me a minute, the meeting point was here.....」

「Set-chan! Are you doing well? Ah, Rei, it's only been since last night. 」

Speaking of her, he noticed Milein, the leader of the party Scorching Wind, whom he was entrusting Set to. Milein stroked Set's back while hugging him.

「Mmm, the touch and feel is the same as usual.However, he's still not feeling happy. Though you might be lonely without Rei, let's do our best for the next few days.」

「Oh, Milein-san.Separating from Rei-kun?」

「Actually, Rei is taking the rank up test for the next few days, and he seems to have been told by the guild that his Griffon is an excessive combat force. Because he said he felt sorry for locking Set up in the stables for a week while he's doing the rank up test, we will be taking care of him.」

Sulunin got to the point and explained the situation to Ranga.

Though Ranga showed some understanding, as part of his job, he spoke to Rei.

「Though there's no issues with leaving your tamed monster with an acquaintance, because the tamed monster was registered by Rei, you will bare the full consequences if something happens.....you understand that right?」

「I heard that from Sulunin yesterday. I judged it would be safe to leave Set to these guys.」

「Is that so, then I won't say any more if you know it. Then, your guild card and the Necklace of Subservient Monster.」

According to Ranga's words, Rei's guild card and the Necklace of Subservient Monster hanging on Set's neck were given to him.

「Yes, that's fine. In that case, take care of yourself.」

With the Necklace of Subservient Monster handed in and the guild card returned, he went out the main gate with Scorching Wind.

「Well then, we'll excuse ourselves here as we have a Treant subjugation request. We'll take care of Set as much as we can, so work hard on your rank up test Rei. Hey, is your meeting point over there?」

When he turned his eyes to the direction Milein indicated, he saw a large carriage there. And along with carriage was the figures of Gran, who was the examiner, and Supervia, who he would be working with for the time being.

「Ah. Well then, I'm counting on you Set. Set, I'll look forward to seeing you again in a week's time.」

「Guru~.....」

Though Set rubbed his head against Rei, feeling lonely, Rei brushed his head lightly before heading for Gran.

「Guru~!」

Finally, giving one last loud cry as if saying, do your best, led by Milein, Set went along the highway with Scorching Wind.

「Is that the tamed Griffon you mentioned yesterday?It certainly looks very powerful. 」

As Rei approached the carriage, Supervia called out.

「Ah well. He's my irreplaceable partner. Anyway, you're early.」

「Ah. Training with the sword every morning has become a daily routine for me. It's become

natural for me to get up early.」

While saying so, Supervia tapped the long sword that was equipped at his waist.

「I see. So, Gran. Is this the carriage that the guild has prepared?」

While asking Gran, he directed his eyes to the horse drawn carriage.

It's size was the same type as the ones he had rode in when he went to the Orc subjugation. Though it might be a little cramped for 7 people, Rei's party of 6 plus Gran, there wasn't a substantial problem as there had to be a driver and guard sitting outside. However, this was a different time and place from the Orc subjugation.....

「They're small.」

Looking at Rei's line of sight, he was looking at the horses pulling the carriage. But rather than the warhorses used in the Orc subjugation, they were ordinary horses. They were small compared to Rei's strong impression from the warhorses, they didn't feel as reliable. However, maybe as a substitute, instead of 2 horses, the number of horses pulling the carriage in front of Rei's eyes were 3.

Gran, who guessed his thoughts, stroked the horses who were attached to the carriage while smiling wryly.

「I know what you're comparing them with, warhorses are precious, even to the guild. Whatever the circumstances, any requests to borrow them for the rank up test to D rank would be denied.」

As they were conversing like that, two more people, Culotte and Scola, appeared from the main gate of the city of Gimuru.

「Good morning. As we'll be working together for a while, nice to meet you all.」

「Nice to work with you too.」

Moving towards Rei, the two people bowed their heads as they greeted him.

Her attitude had changed completely from yesterday and was a lot more toned down, you wouldn't imagine that she was the same person who had viciously snapped at Rei before.

Looking at Rei's appearance, it was easy to guess what he was thinking. As Culotte spoke with Gran, Scola went toward Rei and Supervia.

「That is, are you surprised about Culotte's change in attitude from yesterday?」

「That's right.」

「It certainly is greatly different.」

Scola spoke up while smiling wryly at the two people.

「Actually, Culotte has social anxiety. Added to that, this is the first time she's taken the rank

up test. Because of that, she was too enthused about it and acted recklessly.」

The three people looked towards Culotte, who was talking with Gran, with surprised expressions at Scola's words.

Now that that was said, Culotte actually looked quite nice from Rei's eyes.

(It's great if the thief, who is the eyes of the party, isn't too stressed. If it was Set, there would be no worries of course.)

Set's senses were worthy of a monster at his rank, in the literal sense, it had reached the domain of a cheat. In the monster subjugation requests Rei and Set had received until now, discovering the signs and sounds of monsters nearby was Set's job.

Because of that, Rei, who was serving as the party leader, was happy about Culotte's current state.

「Ah, everyone is early. I wonder if I'm a little late? Good morning.」

A new voice in high spirits called out.

The owner of the voice, was the elf, Firuma. She carried a bow in her hand and a quiver on her back.

Everyone returned a greeting and started to talk about what they had brought and about the upcoming test. Before long, the 9 o'clock bell rang into the surroundings.

(.....So, where's Arogon?)

Though the sound of the bell was heard and he looked around, other than Rei, there were only 5 people, Gran, Supervia, Culotte, Scola and Firuma. Aside from Rei, the others also seemed to have noticed and were looking around.

However, understanding that Arogon had not appeared, the four people aside from Gran, looked to Rei.

As he received the silent pressure as party leader, he called out to Gran.

「Though the 9 o'clock bell has rung, Arogon hasn't come, what happens in this situation?」

「Ahh, that's right. Such a development was not expected indeed. However, an adventurer being late for the appointed request start time is a fairly large demerit. Moreover, to be late on the important day of the rank up test.....」

As Gran said so and was about to declare Arogon's disqualification, he saw Arogon casually walking from the main gate.

「Sorry, am I late?」

He called out in a light tone.

「.....Hey, that's all?」

To that scene, probably involuntarily, Supervia called out.

「Ah? What. You haven't even left yet so it's fine.」

「Wai-, seriously, you! Maybe you don't care about the rank up test but this is serious! What's with that attitude when you're late!」

Not being able to put up with Arogran's attitude anymore, Culotte snapped out. However, all Arogran did was give a snort and laugh.

「Hmm, you can only talk with your mouth, you couldn't do anything against me in the mock battle yesterday.」

「What!」

Having the event pointed out to deride her, Culotte was going to snap back. Scola calmed her down while both Supervia and Firuma sent cold looks at Arogran.

And while Rei wasn't normal, seeing the state of his fellow party members, he involuntarily spat out a sigh.

(To begin with, Culotte is a thief and not a warrior, you shouldn't boast because you beat her in your own field of combat.)

Now, as he looked at the surroundings, his eyes met Gran's. His eyes told Rei to do something as the party leader.

Spitting out another sigh, he took out the Death Scythe from the Misty Ring and placed it against Arogran's neck at a speed which nobodies eyes could follow.

「Though you said Culotte couldn't do anything against you, have you already forgotten what happened 6 days ago? Who was it that boasted after picking a fight with me in front of the guild and had their magic sword knocked away?」

「.....」

With the huge blade pointed at his neck, it seems he couldn't keep the same attitude he had before.

From the start, in the previous event, Rei had pointed out Arogran's weakness out of consideration, he couldn't take his aggressive attitude against Culotte.

He spoke to Arogran, while Supervia and Firuma looked on coldly.

「Do you have anything to say?」

「.....I'm sorry I was late. I'll be more careful next time.」

Though reluctantly, under the circumstances, Arogran replied. Rei stored the Death Scythe at Arogran's neck back into the Misty Ring.

「In any case, this is an exam for a party, not for individuals. If you drag your feet, understand that it will affect the others.Understand?」
「.....Ah.」

Seeing Arogan nod, Rei turned his eyes to Gran.

「I want to get going soon.」
「You decide from here. I will guide you to the bandit hideout, other than that, I won't be helping you.」

Listening to his words, Rei looked around.

「First of all, is there anyone here who can drive a carriage?」

To that question, three people, Culotte, Scola and Supervia raised their hands.

「I see, then you three will take turns to drive the carriage. The other 3, Firuma, Arogan and I will sit next to the driver in case of monster attacks.However, Arogan. As a penalty for before, you'll be on watch more often. If you cut corners and receive a surprise attack from monsters.....what may go flying through the air may not be your magic sword but your head, okay? 」

Maybe understanding the seriousness of Rei's words, Arogan nodded with a serious look on his face.

「Right, then we'll depart. The first driver is Scola. The lookout will be Arogan. Put the baggage that you've brought to the back of the carriage.」

So, declaring that to those participating in the rank up test, everyone climbed into the carriage.

Legend Chapter 50

Legend Chapter 50

While shaking with a gata~ goto~ sound, a single carriage advanced along the highway. The speed of the carriage pulled by the 3 horses was fast. A person wearing the robe, who was supposed to be a mage, was sitting in driver's seat, holding the horses' reins. A man who looked to be a warrior was sitting next to the mage, watching the surroundings for surprise attacks from monsters.

And inside the carriage.

「Uwa~, it really is warm. When were these bought?」

「Ah, I've forgotten but it should have been a few days ago, but no doubt it's still freshly baked.」

Though Culotte was surprised, Rei just smiled as he took some freshly baked cookies from the Misty Ring and carried them to his mouth.

「Oh, it smells good. May I have one?」

「Sure. You should also try Firuma, they're quite delicious.」

Firuma seemed to have been lured by the smell and involuntarily carried a cookie to her mouth.

「Oh, it really is.Your item box is great. Being able to eat freshly baked cookies at any time.」

「.....No, I don't think it's normal to use an item box in this way.」

To Firuma's words, Supervia answered, dumbfounded.

To Supervia's appearance, Rei understood that his use of the item box was different from normal. He held out a dish holding the remaining freshly baked cookies while smiling wryly.

「Eating?」

But Supervia looked at the cookies placed on the dish and shook his head from side to side.

「No, I don't like sweet food.」

「Then I'll have one.」

In response to Supervia, who refused, Gran stretched out his hand to grab a cookie before carrying it to his mouth.

「Mm, it certainly is delicious.」

Unlike Arogan, who was feeling the tension in the drivers seat outside, it was rather laid back inside the carriage.

Compared to yesterday, where Culotte had been aggressive to Rei because of her stress,

after a day, she had become accustomed to the tension and had returned to her normal attitude.

As she was the eyes and ears of the party, he felt relieved at Culotte's current state. While carrying cookies to his mouth, Rei spoke up to Gran.

「Though this test is a thief subjugation, should we consider catching them alive? During the Orc subjugation, I heard from Hobbes that it was possible to sell bandits as slaves if they were caught alive.」

「Ahh, you certainly could normally, after all, these are bandits.....no, the aim is to see if you can kill the enemy if they are humans. Considering if you knock them all out.....no, you shouldn't mind that, just kill them.」

In order to stop them from falling to the thought that they didn't need to kill people, Gran changed his words and told them to just kill them all.

Firuma and Culotte frowned their eyebrows slightly when they heard it, in contrast, Rei and Supervia accepted it without any change in their expression.

「But speaking of that, aren't there at least 20 bandits? It seems a little difficult to take on that many opponents with 6 people.」

「No, not really. After all, we'll be able to mount a surprise attack as we are the attacking group.However, whether we can launch a surprise attack or not depends on whether we can work together.」

To Culotte, who was murmuring anxiously, Rei replied.

In fact, even if you said bandits fought together with their companions, and considering other elements, such as human intelligence, though their degree of risk and their combat power was higher than Goblins, speaking in terms of ranks, they were at the equivalent of E rank, below Orcs.

However, because the bandits were humans, though to be precise, Elves, Beastkin and Dwarves were occasionally mixed in, adventurers below D rank may possibly hesitate to kill them.

「That's true. In fact, Gran said that the participants in the test this time were quite good. In the first place, a party of 6 where 3 can use magic is a luxury for a bandit subjugation.」

Supervia overheard Rei and Culotte's exchange and told them that with a wry smile to relieve her tension.

「.....By the way, I can use spirit magic and the driver, Scola, can use wind magic, what magic can you use Rei?」

She might have had some interest as in the mock battle the day before, Rei had only used the Death Scythe in combat. Firuma leaned forward and asked.

(Elf, hmm.)

Rei spoke while being somewhat puzzled at how Firuma was greatly different from the image he had of elves.

「Basically, my main magic is fire. However, though it's power is strong, it also has a large area of effect. I'm not capable of adjusting my power, so in capture situations it's no use as I would annihilate everything by turning them to charcoal.」

「Hmm.Certainly, from my view, Rei's magic power is very high.That's compared to high elves who are a higher ranking race, compared to elves.....」

The last part was murmured so as to not be heard.

At the time of the rank up test meeting the day before, when Firuma saw Rei enter the meeting room, she could feel that his magic power was the greatest she had ever seen. Because of that, she was tense in the meeting room, ready to escape at any time if need be.

(In fact, Rei's amount of magic power is not normal. It's as if magic power had taken the form of a human. Indeed, a human can't have that much magic power.....is he not human? I see, it possibly could be. However, at the very least, mutual understanding is possible and there's no need to be hostile.)

While observing and evaluating Rei in her mind, at the very least, she calmed herself down as the possibility of him harming them was low.

As for Firuma, compared to 10 or 20 bandits, she felt Rei's risk was higher. However, the stress gradually disappeared as they continued conversing.

「Hey, Rei. Shouldn't we set up camp soon?」

As the sun started to set on the advancing carriage, Scola called out to Rei.

Hearing that, Rei looked out the window and thought for a few seconds before nodding.

「You're right, there's a possibility of straining ourselves tomorrow if we overdo it on the first day.」

Nodding to Socla's proposal, Rei opened the door that was connected to the drivers seat and called out to Supervia, who was driving, and Arogan, who was on lookout.

「Please stop if you find a good spot for setting up a camp.」

「Ahh, I understand.」

「.....」

Supervia replied to Rei's words while Arogan answered in silence.

The trouble from the departure time still remained and there was still tension drifting around the driver's seats.

In such a state, Supervia didn't have the nature to cause trouble and kept his silence, because of the event from a while back as well as before the departure that morning, Arogan's fear of Rei kept him quiet as he watched for enemy attacks.

And discovering a place behind some rocks and shielded from the surroundings, the two people in the driver's seats called the others and they decided to stay there for the night.

Stopping the carriage in an area protected by rocks, Rei took out the tent for the men. Culotte set up the tent she had for the women.

At the same time, Firuma, the elf, collected firewood from the forest nearby while Arogan drew some water from the river. With that, the camp preparations were complete.

After distributing the food for dinner.

「The watch will be in pairs. There will be 3 shifts.」

While saying that, Rei took out an hourglass from the Misty Ring.

It was a magic tool that he had purchased in a tool shop the day before, it was called Hourglass. Though it was only 5cm tall, because it was made with crushed magic stones that had been processed using alchemy, it was a fairly expensive magic tool. For a normal hourglass to measure for 2 hours, it's size needs to be quite big, but as this hourglass was a magic item made with magic stones, it was possible to measure 2 hours with only the height of 5cm.

「Because the sand in the hourglass will take 2 hours to fall, switch out when the sand runs out. The first shift is Arogan and Scola. Second shift is Culotte and Supervia. Last shift is Firuma and I. Any objections?」

「What is the basis for the pairings?」

Sitting across the bonfire, opposite Rei, Supervia asked.

Although Culotte look at him in dissatisfaction as he asked about the pairings, Supervia ignored it and waited for Rei's reply.

「The first watch is a swordsman and a mage. The second shift is a swordsman and a thief. The third shift is a magic warrior and a ranger. I intend to distribute our combat power evenly.」

TLN: You mean you want the elf, that power distribution is clearly not even.

「.....Understood. That's fine.」

After Supervia nodded, because there weren't any other people with different opinions, it

became free time.

While Culotte and Firuma were having a talk between women, Arogan was maintaining his magic sword that he was proud of. To train his magic, Scola was repeatedly creating and canceling the water whip he had used in the mock battle yesterday. Gran watched them all without saying anything himself. Rei was eating a Kum Fruit, that he had bought in the city, for dessert, it had the texture of a pear with the acidity of an orange.

During this, Supervia approached Rei and called out to him.

「Rei, do you have a moment?」

「Ah.」

「It would be good if it's possible, but could you keep me company during my sword practice?」

「Sword practice?」

「Anyhow, I want to move my body a little as I was stuck in the carriage for a long time today.」

After thinking about it for a bit, Rei nodded.

Though it would have been better to practice with Arogan, he judged that he wasn't a good match for Supervia because of his arrogant attitude.

Though Supervia called out for practice, he also gave off the atmosphere that he wanted payback for the mock battle from yesterday rather than training.

「In that case, move a little bit further. There's no need to injure each other doing this.」

「Ahh, that's fine.」

Supervia nodded to Rei's proposal.

Noting that they were too close, Rei took out the Death Scythe after moving a bit further away, Supervia also removed his sword from his sheath.

Seeing the state of the two people, Gran, Culotte and Firuma watched interestedly. Arogan frequently gave glances while pretending not to be interested. The only person who showed no interest was Scola, who was concentrating on his magic training.

「Come.」

「Here I come!」

Giving a sharp cry at Rei's words, he kicked against the ground, entering his range. He judged that entering into close combat would render the length of the Death Scythe useless. And with that, Rei swung down the Death Scythe.

So far, it was the same pattern as yesterday. Yesterday, Supervia was blown away after blocking the Death Scythe with his sword. However.....

「The choice I should make is evade rather than parry!」

Feeling the Death Scythe approach from his side, he lowered his posture to almost a crawl to dodge it. And, taking advantage of that, he stepped forwards and swept his sword in from the side.....

「Not good enough..」

As he was about to go for it, at that moment, the handle of the Death Scythe that should have swept above Supervia was for some reason in front of him.

The long sword that was sweeping in from the side was naturally caught at the hilt.

「Tch!」

As soon as his attack was blocked, he realised that his current position was dangerous. He tried to jump back immediately but as he was thinking that, something hit his ankles. Supervia was rolling on the ground before he realised it.

The huge blade of the Death Scythe was thrust in front of his eyes.

「.....Now, what next?」

What next, though he heard it, he knew he had done his best against Rei. However, he didn't understand why it happened. Because it was a rematch against the opponent who defeated him yesterday, he didn't cut any corners. But despite paying careful attention, he still had his feet knocked out from under him without realising it at all.

As for Rei, he didn't mind Supervia's eyes, who were looking at him in some sort of shock. He readied the Death Scythe again after moving a few steps away.

「What's wrong? Has the practice already finished?」

Maybe Rei's words stimulated his pride, Supervia stood up.

After all, unlike yesterday, his feet had only been knocked out from under him. In this state, there was no problem to continue the training.

With a difference in ability that could be called overwhelming, it provided an extra stimulus to Supervia's motivation.

「Haah!」

He swung down the long sword with a yell, next was a side sweep, a stab, a low blow at his feet.

All those attacks were dodged, evaded or parried.

Like that, rather than calling it a mock battle, the fight continued for 20 minutes. Suddenly,

Rei stored the Death Scythe back into the Misty Ring.

「What wrong? I can still continue.」

Though he said that, it was clear to everyone that Supervia's breath was already ragged.

「If we continue, we'll be fatigued tomorrow. We'll leave it here for today.」

「.....」

Though he was somewhat dissatisfied, he understood Rei's meaning. Reluctantly, he returned his sword into his sheath.

In this way, the first night of the rank up test passed by uneventfully.

Legend Chapter 51

Legend Chapter 51

Pachi~, pachi~, the flames crackled in the campfire.

While watching the flames, Rei kept track of the surrounding movements and sounds.

At night, monsters would run rampant around the outskirts of the city of Gimuru and frequently appeared on the highway. The monsters didn't even care who they attacked.

In fact while Rei and Firuma were on lookout, there were already 5 Goblins casually piled up at the periphery of the campfire. They were not defeated by Rei, they were defeated by Culotee and Supervia during their turn on lookout.

Fortunately, as they hadn't received an attack since then, they weren't as tense. Firuma held out a cup of tea using water that had just been boiled on the campfire and handed it to Rei.

「Here.」

「Sorry about this.」

Receiving the cup, he took several sips after smelling the fragrance.

Though it had already passed mid summer and was entering late summer, the nights could still be said to be very warm.

Under these circumstances, Firuma looked interestingly at Rei, who was drinking the tea without sweating.

「Hey, how can you drink hot tea in this hot weather without even sweating?」

To those words, though he twitched for a moment, he spoke up as Firuma looked at him silently.

「Aren't you the same? Or are elves good at coping with the heat?」

「Hmm, well, about that. I suppose we can cope with a certain degree of heat because we live in the forests?」

「.....About elves, I've heard stories, but don't you usually shut yourselves up in the forest depths without coming out to human areas?」

「Ahaha~. I see, if it's some of the elves who are very old then that certainly might be so.」

While smiling, Firuma had a somewhat lonely expression.

Rei saw that and understanding that he shouldn't ask too deeply about the reason, changed the topic.

「Speaking of which, your bow seems to be quite a good weapon.」

Rei glanced at Firuma's bow. Firuma was sitting opposite Rei, across the campfire, and had placed her bow down.

Though Rei didn't have the power to feel other peoples magic, which a lot of mages could, he was still able to feel something from the bow. It was the same kind of feeling as Arogan's magic sword and the Orc King's great sword, in other words, he judged that it was a magic item.

「Ah, as I thought, you could tell? This is a family heirloom that is handed down from generation to generation. It's an excellent weapon that can grant the wind attribute to arrows.」

「Heh~, wind attribute. Should I say, as expected of elves?」

「Ahaha~. I'll take that as a compliment. But Rei, isn't your own large scythe quite a good weapon?」

Firuma eyed the Death Scythe that was placed next to Rei.

In yesterday's fight, while watching the mock battle before going to bed, she saw Rei's small and delicate build easily handling a chunk of metal over 2m in size. Adding to that, sometimes it was with one hand.

「Seeing the mock battle from before.....does it not let the wielder feel its weight?」

「That's right. No doubt, that's one of its abilities.」

「Heh~, from your words, there seems to be some hidden abilities.」

「Something like that.Well, if it starts to get difficult, you might be able to see them.」

While avoiding the issue, he drank the last of the tea in his cup.

He wasn't naive enough to think of honestly disclosing all his magic items and trump card abilities to Firuma from the beginning.

They continued straight to the next topic.

「Hey, could I ask you something?」

「Ah.」

「Rei, why did you want to become an adventurer?」

「My reason for becoming an adventurer.That's right.....」

In his mind, he recalled the explanation he had given to Ranga when he arrived at the city of Gimuru for the first time.

「Originally, I lived for a while with my master who taught me magic. Adding to that, as it was in the heart of the mountains, there wasn't anyone aside from my master and I.」

「Heh~. In the heart of the mountains, so you lived like the Elves.」

「Something like that. So in any case, I learnt magic from my master. As soon as that finished, Set — ah, he's the Griffon I tamed — and I were forcibly sent to the Forest of Monsters with spatial magic. After that, I reached the city of Gimuru after slipping out of the Forest of Monsters.」

While listening to Rei's description, Firuma had a stunned expression.

As elves lived in forests, she had heard rumors of the Forest of Monsters.

They say that after you go in, you can never get back out.

They say that it was a forest where multiple Dragon species lived.

They say it was where the Majin of old slept

They say that large numbers of A rank monsters lived there, and so on. It was a forest with countless rumors that it was impossible to know what was truth and what was a lie.

Because of that, Firuma was surprised that Rei, who was able to safely escaped from the Forest of Magic, wasn't A rank, let alone D rank.

「.....It was good that you was safely able to get out of the Forest of Monsters.」

「Well, though we hardly encountered any monsters, it was all due to Set. So, anyway, I got out of the Forest of Monsters thanks to Set, but as you know Set is quite big. In other words, the food he requires each day is also correspondingly big. So, I thought up the idea of defeating monsters and feeding their meat to Set..... If I became an adventurer, I would defeat monsters and Set would eat the meat. Moreover, if I received subjugation requests, proofs of subjugation and materials could also be sold at the guild, there were various benefits. That's the simple reason.」

There was no way he was going to say that he became an adventurer in order to collect magic stones.

However, what Rei said about hunting monsters for food for Set or the story about receiving subjugation requests weren't complete lies.

「So, that's my reason for being here.....hm? While talking, the sky seems to have brightened.」

Looking around, sunrise could be seen as the sun rose from the east.

Though Firuma probably intended to talk about why she became an adventurer, it left her mind as she was captivated by the beautiful morning glow.

While the two people watched the morning glow, as the surrounding area brightened up, a goso~ goso~ rustling sound could be heard from one of the tents.

「Ara~, that's a shame. I wasn't able to talk about why I became an adventurer.」

Saying that as she threw some dead wood into the campfire, Firuma greeted Cullote, who came out of the tent.

While seeing that, the second day of the rank up test began.

「That's the bandit hideout.」

Inside the forest, Culotte, who was playing her role as the eyes of the party, muttered as she looked at a huge cliff ahead.

It was noon of the third day since the rank up test had begun, from Gran's information, Culotte had easily found the bandit hideout.

A cliff drop of about 100m. At the bottom of the cliff, bandits could be seen coming in and out. The cave entrance probably led to the location the bandits were using as their headquarters. That was the bandit hideout that Gran had talked about.

「I see, with that small entrance, it certainly is impossible for large monsters to enter.」

The entrance to the cave in the cliff was quite small, when the bandits went in and out, they had to crouch down.

And though it was large enough for a person to get through, there were also bandits on lookout.

Confirming that, Culotte quickly went back to the place where Gran was waiting.

「I've found it.」

「Woah! Don't scare me.」

To Culotte, who came out of the forest with barely a sound, Arogan almost reflexive attacked with his magic sword. But seeing that it was Culotte, he grumbled as he steadied his posture.

「What, it's bad to be absent minded.」

「Come on now, cut it out Arogan and Culotte. You never learn every time.」

Looking at both of them, Firuma chided.

Any how, it could be understood that these two people really couldn't get along ever since the mock battle in the city of Gimuru. They had quarreled several times ever since leaving the city of Gimuru.

Each time, either Scola or Firuma intervened to stop them. Supervia held the attitude of ignoring them while Gran couldn't interfere as he was the examiner. And if you asked about Rei, as he was bad at dealing with people, he ended up angering Culotte further instead of calming her down.

Well, though it could be because of the arbitration, Arogan quickly stopped arguing and left. It seemed he still had some fear of Rei.

「Tch, I understand. There's no fun with getting into a dispute with a thief anyway.」

Fortunately, there weren't any particular problems as Arogan pulled out before it became a

fight.

Rei called out to Culotte after glancing at Arogan.

「So, did you find the bandit hideout?」

「Eh? Ah, yes. As Gran-san said, the exit from their hideout to the forest is in a cave in a cliff.」

「A base in a cave.....is it. Then it might be cleaned up surprisingly easily?」

「Eh? What do you mean?」

Maybe he was interested at Rei's words, Scola asked. Rei's answer was clear and simple.

「What, that's easy. All I need to do is cast my fire magic from the entrance of the cave. With that, everyone inside will either be burnt to death or suffocate. Though it's unlikely, even if there is a mage, they can't protect all the bandits.」

「.....That's a little.....」

As Rei said his idea, Scola words were stuck in his throat.

However, it was Supervia who objected.

「Please wait. Though Rei's plan is certainly efficient, what happens if there are people in the cave who were caught by bandits? They would be burnt together with the bandits.」

「In addition, the bandits treasure. Wouldn't it be a waste to burn up all the treasure those guys have gathered.」

Following Supervia, Culotte also rejected it.

It should be noted that adventurers who did bandit subjugation requests were basically allowed to take the valuables in the bandit hideout. Tentatively speaking, if a merchant insisted on claiming the items back, they would have to pay the adventurer for it, but that was rare as merchants attacked by bandits were often killed.

「Incidentally, one more thing. Though you seem to have forgotten, the purpose of the examination is to test if you can kill people. If Rei killed them all, it wouldn't be possible to determine if the others could rank up or not.」

With one objection after another, Rei could only accept as he also understood the basis for it's rejection

「Well, it's troublesome, I understand. It's an adventurers job to do troublesome things. As the leader, you have to fill the role properly.」

As Gran tapped his shoulder, Rei thought about the strategy again.

「Culotte, was the cliff entrance the only entrance you found?」

「Ah, I'm not sure. Either way, it was a pretty large cliff so it would have taken a while to go around it.....tentatively speaking, as far as I could see, there wasn't another entrance.」

「It seems the surroundings are also uncertain. In that case a surprise attack is best. That's good, listen up. We'll launch a night attack tonight.」

「Why don't we attack now? If we attack at night, won't we have to go through the forest at night? There is a possibility of getting attacked by monsters in the forest.」

To Supervia, who was confused about the night attack, Rei gave a small nod.

「If we go through the forest at night, we certainly might be attacked by monsters. However, in the daytime, there's also a possibility that not all the bandits will be in the hideout.」

「I see, they could be out doing their business.」

「Ah. However, bandits won't go out at night because of the monsters around. That's why this is the plan.」

「I understand. Please continue.」

「But since I've said night time, as expected, they should have a lookout. Culotte, how are the surroundings?」

To Rei's question, Culotte recalled the scene she had seen earlier.

「Close to the entrance, there was a small lookout building. I'm not sure if there will be guards at night.」

「If there is a watch, how many people will there be?」

「Hmm, though I can't say for sure.....maybe 2 people.」

Listening to Culotte's words, Rei looked to Firuma and Scola.

「Can you two kill the lookouts from long distance? Without making a sound as much as possible.」

「I guess so. If it's one, I can bring them down with my bow.....Scola?」

「Depends on the distance. Culotte, you roughly understand the range of my magic right? How is it?」

「I think you can reach it if you use Wind Arrow.」

「I see. Then I'm fine.」

Hearing Scola's words, Rei nodded.

「Then, after defeating the lookouts, first, Culotte will go in and check how many people there are. At the same time, check if anyone has been captured.」

「I understand.」

「After that, Supervia and Arogan will take the vanguard. Firuma and Scola will be at the back.」

「What should I do after scouting?」

「After you know the number of people, and if there are no captured people, see if there are any other exits. Join back with use when you're finished. If you find captured people, then you'll have to rescue them.」

「I understand.By the way Rei, what will you do?」

「Finally, I'm last. When we launch the surprise attack, isn't it necessary for someone to defend Firuma and Scola? In addition, because of it's length, the Death Scythe isn't suitable

for fighting in narrow places. And because my main magic attribute is fire, it's difficult to use it in a cave.」

The 5 people nodded at Rei's explanation. Gran watched the situation from a distance in satisfaction.

(What, though his social skills are a weak point, he's doing quite well as a party leader. I can relax much easier with this.)

「Okay, we'll take a break now in preparation for the night attack. The lookout order is the same as last night.」

Following Rei's instructions, they split up into lookout and sleeping as they prepared for the night attack.

Legend Chapter 52

Legend Chapter 52

In the night forest, the sounds of mayflies persistently echoed. In such an environment, several people advanced through the forest.

「Tch, they're persistent!」

Arogan, who was advancing at the front, brandished his magic sword at the darkness in front of him while clicking his tongue. A Goblin that was about to attack had its head cut off and fell down before it could even scream.

「Seriously, are we crazy to go through the forest at night?」

「.....You didn't say anything during the strategy meeting at noon. Too late now, isn't it?」

As he said that, Supervia thrust his sword into a 1m long Giant Bat without a sound.

「Haa~, I don't understand why you're taking monsters so lightly.」

「You know, if you have any complaints, you should talk to the person himself and not us. You always go quiet in front of Rei, and you get all arrogant when he's not around.」

「Ahh!?!」

Though Arogan scowled at Culotte, he understood that they shouldn't be wasting their time with this and quickly advanced through the forest.

「Generally speaking, our party balance isn't that bad? One thief, two warriors. However, we don't have enough for a rear guard.」

However, he still grumbled.

Yes. The only people currently advancing through the forest at night were Arogan, Supervia and Culotte. Of course, Rei, Firuma and Scola weren't just resting at the back. According to the strategy discussed at noon, the 3 would stay back to look for a position to snipe the bandit lookouts. These 3 had a different job, they had to quickly cut down the lookouts in the case the long distance sniping failed.....

「Rather, if the sniping fails, the lookout will alert the guys inside. So we have to do something about it. In the first place, why couldn't they come with us and then snipe.」

「That's why I was saying, Rei said this just to be sure. Aside from that, come on, we're almost out of the forest. It will be bad if we suddenly came out and alerted the people on lookout. There's no helping that the sniping group is taking separate action. Aside from the ranger, Firuma, and Rei, who's mysterious in various ways, Scola is a genuine mage so he needs to be at a distance that won't alert the bandits.」

Though Supervia said that to Arogan, Culotte smiled as she heard that and continued.

「That's right, Rei would be harsh to Arogan if we were seen like this. I want to see how he would look like.」

「Hey, don't say something nasty like that as a joke. Seriously, I understand, I'll do it seriously.」

While Arogan demonstrated his strange ability to cry out in hushed tones, Culotte quietly looked ahead to the point where forest ended and where the cliff entrance to the bandit hideout was.

As according to Culotte's expectations, there were 2 lookouts. However, you could clearly see they weren't taking it seriously.

(Are they confident that their hideout wouldn't be found.....or are they just stupid.)

Glancing for a moment, Culotte turned her eyes to Arogan.

(.....Though he's probably stupider.)

It would have been nice to have a torch. After all, although as adventurers, they had the occupation of thief, they weren't bandits, and just because Culotte was a thief, it didn't mean she stole things or had good night vision.

However, although they were called lookouts, they weren't really looking around, instead they were talking with each other and laughing loudly. Seeing that, Culotte couldn't really call it a lookout. Anyway, erasing her sounds, she got within 10m of the lookout without them noticing.

(Scola wouldn't have been able to erase his sounds at this range, thinking of that, even Arogan might have issues.

Muttering in her mind, she checked to see how the two people were doing.

Both Arogan and Supervia had already pulled out their weapons, they were ready to attack at any time. Culotte checked her dagger, which had been used to cut the throat of a Goblin in the forest, and waited.

「.....Still not yet?」

They had been hiding on the edge of the forest for a few minutes. Maybe he was impatient that the attack still hadn't begun, Arogan gave a small mutter while Culotte patiently waited for Scola and Firuma's attack.

「I'm amazed.」

At the sniping location, away from Culotte's position, Firuma muttered in amazement as she watched the bandit lookout, visible in the distance.

It was no wonder, the people at the lookout were laugh and talking, they basically weren't acting as lookouts.

「You know, since you're helping us all, you shouldn't blame yourself, okay?」
「I understand.....right.」

While listening to their exchange, Rei looked towards the forest.

Normally speaking, if he wasn't a thief like Culotte, it would be impossible for him to grasp the state of the dark forest. However, because his body was made by Zepairu's organisation and ignored common sense, he could see into the forest without any issues.

In Rei's view, he could clearly see the 3 people, Arogan, Supervia and Culotte, hiding near the edge of the forest.

「It seems the 3 people in the vanguard have reached their positions successfully. Are you ready?」

The two people nodded in silence to Rei's words.

Seeing that, Rei nodded as he told them to start the night attack.

「Okay, Scola, start casting your magic. Firuma must match his timing and attack with your bow at the same time Scola casts his magic.」
「I understand.」
「Leave it to me.」

Nodding, Scola began to cast his spell, Firuma notched an arrow to her bow to match the timing.

『Wind, turn into an unseen arrow to pierce those before me.』

Scola's incantation to cast his magic was the same one he used in the mock battle., invisible arrows were created. The invisible wind arrows were already difficult to see in the day, at night, their stealthiness increased further.

Finishing the incantation, Scola held his magic in place, ready to cast, and looked at Firuma. Seeing Firuma's nod, he released his magic.

『Wind Arrow!』

Along with his words, 5 invisible wind arrows were launched. At the same time, Firuma let lose her arrow towards the lookout.

The next moment the two attacks were released, the wind arrows stabbed into the neck and head of the lookout who was sitting down, the other man didn't realise what had happened as an arrow dropped down and pierced into his head at the same time.

「They've done it!」

The lookout hit in the neck and face by the wind arrows crumpled to the ground, spouting blood from the wounds in his neck and face. The other man fell at almost the same time, an arrow piercing his head. Seeing that, Culotte gave a sharp cry to Arogan and Supervia.

The two people heard the words and started running quickly out of the fores, rapidly closing the distance to the lookout.

And as they closed the distance, Supervia clicked his tongue.

「That's bad, the person Scola attacked with magic hasn't been killed. Arogan, you have to kill the lookout on the ground that's still alive. Watch out for people coming out of the cave.」

「Hey, why me!」

「Shut up, we don't have the time. From now on, there's no time to spare. It's a race against time.」

「Tch, I understand, damn it.」

While talking, they finally reached the lookout. Supervia hid himself next to the entrance and check inside as said that to Arogan.

Fortunately, all they could hear was laughter and cheers. Judging that they were all reveling and probably didn't notice what happened to the lookout, Supervia let out a sigh of relief.

Nearby, Arogan was looking at the lookout who was struggling on the ground in pain and confusion.....Arogan froze up.

「Shit, like this.....」

「Gah~.....ugh, urk.....」

To the misfortune of the lookout, Scola's magic was still immature.No, for an E rank adventure, it was already strong enough. But even though all 5 wind arrows had hit his head and neck, as they prioritized speed and stealth, they weren't enough to kill the lookout.

In that sense, maybe the happier person was the one who had his head pierced by Firuma's arrow. Because he was killed instantly, he wouldn't have known what had happened.

「Arogan, make it quick!」

Kill him, Supervia quietly ordered Arogan, who was hesitating.

However, for Arogan to kill a person.....it was the first time he had to kill someone of the same race, his hands trembled and wouldn't move properly. In the mock battle against Rei, Arogan had gone in with the intention to kill! But though he wielded a magic sword, for better or worse, it he hadn't actually killed anyone. Because of that, the magic sword in his

hand trembled.

「Tch, Culotte, as Rei said, check inside the cave.」

「I-I know!」

As Supervia saw Culotte replace him at the cave entrance, he approached the lookout, who was writhing on the ground, and casually swung his long sword down at the man's neck.

「Gah~!」

With the blade of the longsword, head of the lookout rolled to the ground while leaving a trail of blood.

「Urrghhhhk~!」

Though he had seen dead monsters, It was the first time Arogan had seen a dead human. Arogan ran towards the shadows while vomiting.

While looking at Arogan with a complex expression, Supervia strained his ears to listen to the sounds in the cave.

Fortunately, though the lookouts had died, only shouts of happiness and laughter could be heard.

In such a situation, the rear guard joined up.

「Where is Culotte?」

「She's gone inside as planned in the strategy.」

While answering Rei, Supervia looked at Scola and Firuma.

Firuma didn't seem to feel any guilt from killing a person. Or maybe she just had enough mental strength to hide it. However, Scola was clearly looking pale.

「Scola too.」

To Supervia's words, Rei looked at Arogan, who was still vomiting in the shadows.

「It seems so. It's because the lookout survived the magic that was used.」

「Well, it was the first time he's had to kill someone. It's not unreasonable.」

「Supervia seems to be calm.」

「I've become used to it. Speaking of which, you don't seem to mind it either?」

「Well, I wonder.....so, you've come back.」

Noticing Culotte coming back with silenced footsteps, Rei ended the conversation. While they had a surprised look, they understood as the person in question came out of the cave.

「How was it?」

At Rei's question, Culotte gave a small nod.

「There's one main path ahead. However, it later splits into 3 passages. On the right path, there seems to be some people who maybe merchants who have been captured. Because there were guards, I couldn't see exactly how many were captured. The middle path is quite wide, the sounds of reveling were coming from there. Also, the left side seems to be some sort of armoury and storage area.」

「Number of bandits?」

「There's slightly less than 30 people.」

「I see. Are there any other exits to the outside?」

「I didn't check as I didn't have enough time.」

「In that case, should we try to kill as many thieves as possible at first contact?」

「However, it won't be as easy if there are merchants taken as hostages.」

To Rei's murmur, Supervia spoke up.

「Well, that's true.Culotte, do you know if there are any side paths that go from the prison to the area where they are partying?」

「I said it before but I don't know as there was no time. But you're asking for my personal opinion, as they're not expecting a subjugation force to come, I don't think they would be able to respond to an emergency situation.」

「In that case.....Culotte, you have to head to the prison first to secure the prisoners. After that.....Gran, what will you do?」

When he called out into the darkness, Gran came out with a wry smile.

「I didn't expect to be noticed. So, what do you want?」

「After we rescue the hostages, can we leave them to you or is it considered part of the rank up test?」

「No, you can't. My role is strictly to ascertain whether you have the ability to go up to D rank. I'm not supposed to help if there is no compelling reason. So, in other words, the current situation isn't important enough.」

「.....It can't be helped. Though it's regrettable to reduce our combat power, Culotte, after rescuing the prisoners, come back here and hide yourself.」

「I understand.」

「Okay, we'll enter the cave. As I said at noon, Arogan and Supervia will take the vanguard. Center are Scola and Firuma. I'll be the rear guard.....can you do it?」

Arogan's nausea had finally settled and Rei called out to him as he returned. Arogan nodded with a bitter expression.

「Ah, I'll do it.」

「Scola, you?」

「I-I'm fine. I'll manage it somehow.」

Giving Scola some time, he started to feel better than before.

「Okay, we'll rush in.」

At Rei's cue, they rushed into the cave.

Legend Chapter 53

Legend Chapter 53

Because the entrance was narrow, Culotte went in first to check if there were any lookouts. After that, Supervia, Arogon, Scola, and Firuma entered in that order. Rei entered last.

「.....It's narrow.」

In the cave, it was only wide enough for two people to walk side by side. There was only enough space for one person to fight freely.

Checking the situation, Rei spoke.

「Supervia, Arogon, Firuma and Scola, follow me. As for Culotte, her top priority is to secure the prisoners. After that, she will hide herself in the shadows of the lookout.」

「.....A little while ago, Arogon vomited in the shadows.....」

Though Culotte said that displeased, thinking about having to fight in the forest to protect the merchants, who were probably amateurs at fighting, she decided to hide herself in the end.

「Okay, let's go. It's a race against time with this. If you find a bandit, kill them without hesitation. If you delay, they'll warn their fellow bandits, so if possible, kill them before they say anything.I will launch a surprise attack at the place they are partying. The fight shouldn't take too long.」

Everyone nodded at Rei's words, Culotte advanced to the right passageway where the prison was.

Rei saw that before quickly taking the middle passageway while trying to make as little noise as possible.....

「-!？」

As Supervia approached the front, Rei waved his hand to stop him.

「Here they are.」

「Number of enemies?」

「I haven't counted but there should be roughly 30 bandits as Culotte said. Almost everyone is drunk, but there are also some who aren't.」

「Okay, the first time, you two took out the lookouts in the preemptive attack. This time, I'll participate. I, Scola and Firuma will attack with magic and arrows to throw the bandits into confusion. Using the confusion, Supervia and Arogon will move in, I'll stay back to protect the back line.」

Everyone nodded at Rei's instructions, Supervia and Arogon prepared their weapons, ready to rush in at any time. Firuma set up her bow and Scola started to cast a spell.

Rei saw that and returned the Mithril Knife, which was hard to maneuver in the cave, to his waist and took out the Death Scythe, which was also a magic casting tool.

『Flame, burn the enemy according to my thoughts.』

At the same time, he said an incantation. A 30cm diameter fireball appeared in front of Rei, rapidly raising the temperature.

Rei glanced at Scola for a moment, he nodded back when he had finished his incantation.

『Fireball.』

First to be released was Rei's fireball. It hit the center of a group of 5 people who were drinking. The first bandit to be hit by the fireball burned up in an instant, his life promptly leaving him. The bandits who were around the man hit by the fireball received both small and large burns.

「What? Enemy attack!? Everyone.....」

A man near the burning bandits tried to order an interception at once, but was shot in the head by Firuma's arrow.

「Enemy attack, it's an enemy attack! Stop them!」

As expected, even though they were drunk, they realised that they were being attacked. A man with a huge body, who seemed to be the leader, shouted instructions from the back of the room.

Men in the vicinity with swords, axes and clubs, obeyed the order and turned towards the entrance to the hall. However, as if waiting for that, Scola's magic was cast.

『Wind Blow』

An invisible fist made of wind. The closest bandits were beaten down by several dozen wind fists.

Though its killing power was nowhere near Rei's fireball, it had several times the range compared to fireball.

「Ahhhh! It's a monster, a monster is attacking!」

Beaten by the wind fists, a man who saw his friend hit in the stomach before falling down unconscious involuntarily yelled out.

His words that there was a monster only further confused the bandits.

「This idiot. There are no monsters that use wind and fire magic around here! Besides, there's an enemy using a bow. Get a grip on yourselves!」

The leader shouted, however, it was no easy task to restore order to those who had fallen into confusion. If they were trained soldiers or adventurers then maybe, but not for bandits.

And.....

「Go!」

At the same time as Rei's sharp shout, Supervia and Arogan plunged in the bandits with their weapons.

「Hah, damn. I'll do it. I'll do it!」

While partially in desperation.....no, Arogan had finally resolved himself to kill people. Using his magic sword, he slashed the belly of a nearby bandit.

「Gyaa~!」

As expected of a magic sword, a single slash cut the body of the bandit into top and bottom without any resistance.

The male bandit died while splattering his offal and blood into the surroundings, Arogan experienced killing someone for the first time in his life.

「Arogan, don't become absent minded. There's still enemies!」

Supervia shouted while driving his long sword into a nearby bandit's head and hurling a dagger at a bandit who was trying to ready a bow.

As for Arogan, he understood Supervia's worried words and knew it wasn't the time to fight about it. He wielded his magic sword desperately against the bandits.

To support the two, Scola attacked with wind and water magic. At the same time, Firuma covered the two who were fighting at the front by shooting arrows given the wind attribute from her magic bow.

「Hey, first take out the 3 people at the back!」

According to their leader's instructions, several bandits jumped at Scola and Firuma, however.....

「If there's this much space, there's no problem.」

Holding the Death Scythe, Rei block the bandits.

「Get out of the way you damn brat!」

Receiving a surprise attack in the middle of their feast followed by fear and anxiety as their friends were killed, they were filled with anger. A male bandit, with bloodshot eyes, swung his axe down at Rei's head, who was standing in the way to protect Scola and Firuma.

Though Rei was holding a huge scythe, his height was only up to the bandit's chest, he also seemed to have a delicate build. He was convinced that he could kill Rei in a single blow.

But.....

「It's 3rd class to judge people by their appearance.」

Kin~! With a metallic sound, the falling axe head hit the blade of the Death Scythe.

.....No. Rather than blocking it, the axe that was swung at the magic boosted blade of the Death Scythe went past it. It snapped right in two from the weight of the magic boosted Death Scythe.

「Impossible!」

Seeing a scene he did not expect, Rei's Death Scythe cut down like the grim reaper at the bandit who was frozen in shock.

「Gah~!」

The bandit's body was cut, split into top and bottom as his life left him.

(That said, I don't know what will happen in this melee. I should use it just in case of an emergency.)

Inwardly muttering, he activated the skill he had recently learned.

「Magic Shield!」

At the same time Rei triggered the skill, a shield of light appeared. The shield would move as to not interfere with Rei's attacks, it would also move automatically to protect him if he was attacked.

「Rei, that was.....」

Though Firuma raised a voice of surprise at Rei's magic shield, judging that there was no time, she immediately notched an arrow and shot a bandit that was heading for Arogan.

While some of the bandits were beginning to recover from the confusion, it was still hard to say if they had fully recovered. After all, the men had drank a lot of alcohol, because of their intoxication, they couldn't sober up immediately as the enemy came.

Whether Arogan and Supervia understood it or not, they tried to end it quickly. The magic sword cut an enemy in two while the long sword cut off necks and limbs.

「Damn, they have considerable skill. And there's even 2 mages? Isn't this overkill for a bandit subjugation!」

The leader spat out as he looked at the three people who were blocking the exit from the

hall.

「You with the bow! Take out the guy blocking the entrance!」

According to the leader's instructions, several bandits drew their bows fully and aimed at Rei.

「I see, I see, then let's do this. Flying Slash!」

Rei didn't miss hearing the leader's instruction and wielded the big Death Scythe while invoking the skill.

The slash flew forward, slashing 3 bandits who had readied their bows.

Though it's level wasn't at a stage where it could kill in a single blow, it could still give a large wound, having the same effect as a bow in this battle wasn't possible.

「Rei!」

A voice like a scream came from Firuma's mouth. It was because she saw a bandit aiming a bow at Rei while hiding behind the dead bodies of his companions.

Though she aimed her bow at the bandit, it was a moment too late and the arrow had already been fired.

Firuma's arrow immediately pierced the head of the bandit who had shot the arrow, killing him. However, it wasn't possible to stop the fired arrow. The figure of Rei pierced by the arrow flashed through her mind. But.

「Don't worry, there are no problems here.」

To Firuma, who had her eyes shut, Rei's usual calm voice was heard.

Firuma question the scene that appeared in front of her as she opened her eyes, the magic shield blocked the arrow before disappearing into mist.

「You understand? First give priority to reducing the number of enemies. The bandits are slowly recovering from their confusion.」

「Eh, yes.」

Nodding, Firuma gathered her thoughts together and looked towards the hall.

(Because it's inside a cave, the power of the wind spirits are weak. Still, there's a danger if I use the power of the spirits of the land carelessly.....no, I should interfere with ground rather than the cave itself.

『Spirits of the land, Earth Spear!』

The spirits of the land responded to Firuma's call, 1m long earthen spears with sharp points

like swords sprung up from the bandits feet.

「Uwaa~!」

「Hey, what is that!?!」

「Damn, what is happening!」

「Retreat, get out of the way!」

Seeing several companions stabbed by earthen spears that had suddenly come out from the ground, the bandits fell into confusion again.

The new confusion that came about just as they had recovered from the confusion of the surprise attack brought the bandits to despair.

「Uooooohhhhh!」

Seeing a friend pierced by a earthen spear from below, a bandit instinctively jumped back. Arogan raised a shout as he stabbed the nearby bandit.

In addition, while leaving his companion to fight Arogan and Supervia, there was a bandit who didn't want to stay here any longer and ran towards the exit of the hall, however.....

『Ice Needle』

He fell to the ground as his whole body was skewered by dozens of ice needles launched by Scola.

「Damn, hey. You and you. Come with me. Don't let those guys see you.」

While almost in a state of panic, the bandits near the exit of the hall were mowed down by Scola's magic, Firuma's arrows and Rei's huge scythe. Meanwhile, the leader ordered his aides in lowered tones.

Maybe the two understood what their leader was thinking. Giving a small nod, they erased their signs and moved to the interior of the cave.

A secret only the leader and his aides knew. That is, a secret escape path from the hall.

In the case of an emergency, only they would survive at the expense of their subordinates. Because of this, the secret passage leading to the outside of the hall was concealed at the beginning when this place was decided to be their stronghold.

The of bandits left in the hall were already down to 10. Most had yet to sober up from their intoxication. They began to attack the party that had launched the surprise attack in partial desperation. As for the people who knew about the passageway, other than the leader's group, the rest were all dead. If they could quickly escape from here, they could reorganize the bandit group from scratch.

While thinking that in his mind, so as to be not noticed by the people rampaging in the hall,

the leader moved further into the cave.

However, naturally, there was someone who wouldn't miss this.

「.....There are 7 people left in the hall. Can you manage them?」

「Eh? Yes. Though it should be okay.....why this all of a sudden?」

Firuma asked while shooting an arrow into a bandit's arm.

「No, it seems a rat is trying to sneakily escape. I will dispose of them. Once more, just in case.....Magic Shield.」

「Huh? A rat?」

Paying no attention to Firuma's puzzled voice, after creating another magic shield, which Firuma saw earlier, he kicked against the ground while wielding the Death Scythe. He went towards the fight between Arogan, Supervia and two bandits as he headed further in.

「Wai-, Rei!?」

「Uwa~, both of you take care. Rei's going further in!」

At Firuma's puzzled voice and Scola's shout to the vanguard, Rei narrowed the distance.....

「Shoes of Sleipnir, start.」

The effect of the magic item Shoes of Sleipnir allowed him to run through the air. Jumping once and twice, he jumped over the fight zone.

「Huh?」

「What!?!」

Though Arogan and Supervia called out to Rei from behind, he paid no attention to them and with his 3rd and 4th steps.....landed back on the ground.

That's right, he landed in front of the bandit leader and his aides who were secretly trying to sneak out.

Legend Chapter 54

Legend Chapter 54

「.....What do you want, you.」

The bandit leader couldn't believe what he had seen with his own eyes.

What the leader saw in front of his eyes was a kid in his mid teens, that was the only thing that made sense though.

Running through the air, even though the leader had spent a long time as a bandit in the underworld, this was the first time he had seen such a thing.

「Well, what do I want to do, is it. Anyway, I'm here to stop you from running away.」

Holding the Death Scythe in his hands while the magic shield followed him, he looked at the bandit leader and his two aides.

「First of all, making their subordinates fight and running away by himself.....how does such a person lead a group of bandits?」

「Sh-shut up! The only bandit that needs to survive is I! Hey, you. Attack him together! We'll be able to escape if we take him out.」

Shouting to his aides, the leader readied his huge battle axe.

「Heh~, you still want to do it.Well, the purpose is to exterminate all the bandits, surrendering, escaping or dying a honourable death, the result doesn't change.」

「So noisy! Do you think we're scared just because you can fly in air for a while!? Hey, go!」

「Ah.」

「Tch, do we have no choice.」

The two aides held a long sword and a spear in their hands, they both attacked Rei at the same time.

The man with the spear took advantage of the range of his spear to stab at Rei's body without interfering with his companions' attacks.

The other man swung his sword at Rei's legs from the right.

Finally, the bandit leader swung his battle axe down, aiming to split Rei's head with his prided physical strength.

「Your cooperation is insufficient.」

Stopping the spear stab with the magic boosted Death Scythe, he cut off the spear head before instantly shifting the handle of the Death Scythe to block the sword aimed at his feet. The leader's battle axe, that was aimed at Rei's head, was blocked by the magic shield.

「What!?!」

He gave cry in stunned voice. However, Rei didn't care and used the Death Scythe to cut off the head of the man who held the sword before taking a quick step forward and slashing down at the head of the man with the spear, splitting him left and right.

The man with the sword fell to the ground while spewing blood from his neck. The body of the man with the spear fell to the left and right, offal and blood spilling onto the ground.

「Wh-what did you do!?!」

As the leader of the bandits said that, he immediately retreated and brandished his battle axe, more shocked that his attack was blocked than the fact that both his aides were dead.

Though the organs and blood of the man with the spear was spilled at his feet, the leader desperately searched for a chance to escape from Rei without minding that.

「Well, what did I do indeed.」

Muttering, Rei saw the magic shield disappear into mist.

He wanted to create another magic shield again but the leader would notice that it was some sort of magic if he did that. Flicking the blood off the Death Scythe, he pointed the tip of the blade at the leader.

「Guh~, damn, damn, damn this asshole! We had been doing well up until you interfered. Why did you guys have to come!」

The leader ran towards him brandishing his large battle axe while shouting. Maybe knowing that he couldn't escape, he seemed to have lost his temper.

Seeing such a leader, Rei was amazed.

「To begin with, if you hated being subjugated, you should have just worked honestly. Is it okay if you kill people and bad if you are killed?」

「Shut up you brat! Speaking like that to your seniors! Get out of the way now!」

He swung down the battle axe while shouting. However, the attack wasn't fast, neither was it powerful or skillful. It was just an attack with nothing but his physical strength.

「.....It's unsightly, you have been caught and punished for your own crimes.....die.」

The attack of the battle axe was caught by the handle of the Death Scythe, parrying it. With one strike, the blade slashed out, cutting off the leader's head and sending it flying.

A few seconds later, the headless body of the bandit leader fell to the ground, spewing blood.

Confirming that, Rei turned to where the melee had been going. It had already finished, all the bandits had been turned into corpses.

「Now then. It seems it's time to clean up, somehow.」

Swinging the Death Scythe once, he flicked the blood off the blade.

Though if the enemies were monsters, they would have started dismantling them, as expected, there were no materials to strip from humans and doing so would be in bad taste.

(Well, I wonder if I can dismantle Orc without feeling anything because they are demi-humans.)

「That's right. I never thought we'd be able to take out 30 people.....so, what do we do now?」

Supervia asked while moving closer to Rei.

「That's right, collect the corpses to the center of the hall.」

「Huh? Why do we have to do something that time consuming?」

At Rei's words, Arogan interjected, saying it would be really troublesome.

From his appearance, the impact he had received after his first kill in combat could not be seen.

(No, it's because he's still in a state of excitement from the battle. Perhaps tonight was too intense.)

Accepting that he could kill people or not. If he could, he would be able to continue as an adventurer, if not, he would not be able to progress as an adventurer.

「Are you sure? What do you think will happen if you left 30 corpses here. 」

「Then, well, they would rot.」

「.....That's why I was saying.」

「Huh? So what were you saying?」

In place of Rei, who sighed as if there was no hope, Scola explained to Arogan.

「If you leave corpses in that state, although it's only a possibility, they could become undeads like Zombies and Skeletons.....didn't you know? In addition, rotting corpses also spread diseases. Though it's probably okay as this place is 2 days away from Gimuru, it would be bad if a strange disease spreads around.」

「Seriously, I get it. I'll gather the corpses. So, what next after they're gathered?」

Storing the Death Scythe into the Misty Ring, Rei answered while pulling the corpse of the leader.

「A simple story. I'll burn them. I won't leave even bones.」

「-!?I understand.」

Overwhelmed by the pressure he saw in Rei's eyes, Arogan half dragged the body of one of the leader's aides to the center of the hall.

Scola, Supervia and Firuma also saw that and began to gather the bandit corpses to the center of the hall in silence.

Meanwhile, Rei called out to Scola, who's face was flushed as he pulled a corpse, due to his lack of strength.

「Scola, please inform Gran and Culotte that the bandit subjugation has been completed. At the same time, check the supply area with Culotte.」

「Ah, okay. I understand.」

Scola was a pure mage, he wasn't good at physical labour. And more importantly, Scola was moving the corpses of the people he had killed. Arogan was the same, Rei didn't know what would happen once the excitement from battle died down.

「Aren't you nice.」

Firuma whispered into Rei's ear.

Rei shook his head with a wry smile at the situation.

「Not really. In the first place, he's a pure mage and is not suited to do physical labour. Even if he isn't here, the work efficiency doesn't change.」

「.....Just saying, I'm also a back line person.」

「Since you use a bow as a ranger, don't you have more physical strength than Scola?」

In compensation for hurting a girl's feelings with his words, Firuma got Rei to promise to give her some freshly baked cookies when they returned to the city of Gimuru.

「It's become quiet inside the cave.」

Outside the cave, Culotte muttered from the shadows of the lookout building.

「Culotte-san, is the wound on your arm okay?」

An man in his twenties, who was hiding at the back, whispered anxiously.

Culottes right arm had been scratched by a dagger, first aid had been applied by wrapping a cloth around it. Though she originally wanted to heal it with a potion, Culotte had only prepared one potion this time and a merchant that had been caught by the bandits had suffered a serious injury.

Therefore, the potion had been used there. She was only able to stop the bleeding from the

wounds she had received from fighting the bandits while guarding the merchants.

「I'm sorry, there are potions in our belongings that were stolen from us, but.」
「Seriously. We owe you, young miss. Getting your help, saving us from the bandits, and giving us your potion. We will return the favour by all means.」

The behind the first man who had whispered earlier, another person called out to Culotte. The man had an atmosphere of a stubborn father and was in his mid forties. Though there was a large amount of blood on his clothes, he didn't seem to have a pained appearance. This was the merchant Culottes had used her potion on, the reason for the blood was his injury.

There were two people next to her. Because she was appointed by Rei, who was the party leader, to guard to the merchants, Culotte was able to shelve her feeling of guilt and fear from killing the enemies that had been guarding the merchants.

And, as a thief, when Culotte heard footsteps coming close, she reflexively held up her dagger.

The two merchants saw that and hid back into the shadows of the lookout building so as to not interfere with her. But.....

「What.」

Then, noticing that the footsteps were from someone she knew, she lowered her guard while exhaling in relief.

「Culotte-san?」
「Young miss?」

As the two people she was guarding called out to her, she nodded with a smile.

「It's all right. It's my companion.」

Culotte's words were proven at once. Scola poked his head out from the inside of the cave to check the safety of the surroundings.

「Scola, over here.」
「Ah, Culotte. It's good you're safe.....no, you've been injured. Give me a moment.」

Scola noticed that she had a cloth tied to her right arm to stop the bleeding and hurriedly moved to Culotte with his cane.

「Please. As expected, I was a little nervous.」
「It seems to be so, Culotte. Here it goes.」

They looked at each other with a bitter smile. After the two had experienced killing someone for the first time, because they had known each other for a long time, they both

smiled to tell the other not to worry.

Scola erased his bitter smile immediately as he focused on Culotte's arm and began an incantation to a spell.

『Water, be merciful and bestow healing to the person.』

According to Scola's spell, a blue light gathered on the tip of his cane, eventually moving to Culotte's right arm.

『Aqua Healing』

At the same time the magic was cast, the blue light entered the wound.....the pain that Culotte had felt naturally subsided.

Exhaling in relief, she undid the cloth that had been tied to stop the bleeding. There wasn't a single scar, just the original, beautiful, skin.

「Heh~, a mage that can use healing magic. Not bad.....」

To the middle aged man's compliment, Scola's cheeks grew red from embarrassment. Different from her previous wry smile, Culotte spoke up with a real smile.

「So, what are you here for?」

「Ah, oh yeah. Instructions from Rei. We have to go check the storage area.」

「Hmm. The the bandits have been dealt with?」

「Yes. Really, everyone was awesome. In particular, Rei used some sort of magic item and ran through the air.」

「.....As usual, he's not normal. Well, I understand what happened. You're coming with me just in case. You two come as well. You want to get back your belongings?」

At Culotte's words, the merchants involuntarily opened their eyes wide. Generally speaking, if their belongings were stolen by bandits, it was normal to have to pay a corresponding amount of money to have it returned.

However, Culotte asked them to freely enter the cave.

「The party leader, Rei, isn't stingy enough to complain about this.Ah, Arogan might complain though.」

「Fufu~, that may certainly be so. But, Arogan won't go against Rei.」

「That's probably true. There shouldn't be any problems. Come with me.」

In this way, the two merchants followed Culotte back into the cave nervously.

For the sake of precaution, while being cautious of possible remaining bandits, Scola followed at the back .

(.....I understand her feelings but that's a small demerit. Even if she returned their

belongings, at least it should be after confirming it with Rei, who is the party leader.)

Gran, who had erased his signs and heard the previous conversation, chased after them while dropping Culotte's mark in his mind by a little bit.

(Well, if you look at exchanging it with the merchants, the demerit isn't too big.)

Leaving aside the evaluation of the fight between the thief and the prison guards, Gran had a good impression from when she rescued the merchants that had been captured.

Legend Chapter 55

Legend Chapter 55

The hall of the cave. The corpses of the bandits were stack in a pile there.

Arogan, Supervia, Firuma and Rei had collected them together with a bit of difficulty.

Frowning subtly at the pile of corpses, Rei gave instructions to the other 3.

「Scola and Culotte should have headed towards the warehouse. We'll join them there.」

At Rei's words, Firuma asked curiously.

「That's fine but what about the corpses? Didn't you say we had to burn them?」

「That's true but we'll do that before we leave the cave. If I burnt them now, it would fill the cave with smoke and that would be bad.」

「Ahh, I see. That would be inconvenient for humans.」

Understanding, Firuma nodded as Supervia spoke up.

「Is it different for elves?」

「Mm, that's right. We would still collapse though if we stayed in an area filled with smoke for too long though. However, it won't happen too fast.」

「Hour~, that's convenient for elves.」

「On the other hand, we're weaker than humans in physical strength. In comparison, aren't the number of elven warriors fewer than rangers and mages like me? 」

「No, in the first place, Firuma is the first elf I've ever seen.....」

「Ah, I understand. To begin with, only a small number of elves actually come out of the forests.」

Seeing the two people talking like that, Arogan became annoyed and called out.

「Hey, we can talk about the story later. We have to go to the storage area first. It's too unpleasant to stay here. Damn, my nose has become clogged with the smell of blood.」

「.....Well, what Arogan said is reasonable. It would also be bad if we left Culotte, Scola and the captives for too long. Let go quickly.....」

Speaking up to there, Rei's movements stopped.

Though the three others turned around, puzzled at why Rei had stopped, Rei only had a faint smile on his face.

The reason was because a voice had abruptly resounded in his head. Moreover, it was a familiar voice.

In other words.

【Set has acquired the skill『Poison Claw Lv.1』】

It was an announcement message.

(I see, even if Set and I are separated.....if Set eats a magic stone, it's still possible to acquire a skill. Just finding this out is worth separating from Set for a while.)

「Rei?」

To Supervia's question, Rei shook his head while hiding his thoughts.

「No, it's nothing. Although I felt that there were some bandits remaining, it was probably my imagination. Let's go to the storage area.」

Saying so, they advanced back down the path to the fork in the passage before taking the left path.

「Ah, Firuma. Rei as well.」

Culotte and Scola greeted Rei in front of the storage area. There were also two unfamiliar people.

While expecting that they were probably the captured merchants, Rei asked Culotte.

「So, what's in there?」

「Mm, well. Well, I wonder. Firstly, there are a moderate amount of gold, silver and copper coins, there are some jewels as well. In addition, there are also some cheap magic items. However, strangely, there's a large amount of weapons.」

Look here. They looked inside the storage area at Culotte's prompt. Inside, a large quantity of things such as swords, spears, axes, bows and arrows were stored.

「.....What could this mean? All the bandits we defeated were holding weapons. Yet why is there still a room filled with weapons?」

Rei looked puzzled, similarly, Supervia had a puzzled look after looking inside and made a guess.

「Maybe, they were taken from the merchants they had attacked up until now? Because they would be able to use those as spare weapons and sell them off when they no longer needed them.」

「Well, that may be true normally.....」

While Rei felt that there was something suspicious, Culotte called out to him.

「Hey, I've returned the belongings that were taken from the two people, that's fine right?」

Saying that and looking at the two merchants, they certainly were carrying something like a huge bag on their backs.

Normally, items that were stolen from bandits would have to be bought back at a suitable price, however.....

「That's fine isn't it?」

Rei had no attachment to money than what was necessary and easily nodded.

However, naturally, there was someone who couldn't let this pass quietly.

「Hey, normally, wouldn't they have to pay use to return their belongings? Yet, letting it go so ea.....si.....ly.....」

In the middle of Arogan's words, he probably noticed that Rei had turned to look at him. He gradually lost the will to continue speaking.

Still, being unable to accept their reward being reduced, Arogan turned to Supervia and Firuma.

But it was no use. The reward of the bandit subjugation and rank up test was previously declared as one silver coin. In other words, if you wanted any more rewards, it would have to be from the bandits treasure. But.

「It's not really a problem is it? It was originally their belongings.」

「I have no objections in particular either.」

As both Supervia and Firuma didn't have any particular objections to Rei's opinion, Arogan was left by himself.

However, if you were to say which adventurer was actually right, Arogan was more correct. Because adventurers did a lot of dangerous work, they may cause trouble to other adventurers if they made promises to rashly.

Fortunately, the two merchants who had been captured were able to properly understand the situation.

「Well now, about that. As you saved our lives, as expected, we would feel guilty if we didn't compensate you. So, how about passing you a reward in commodities once we return to the city of Gimuru? Because we even deal with magic items, I think there will be some goods that you will surely like.....」

When the younger merchant had heard everything, he proposed this to Rei. Hearing magic item, Arogan's face changed to a joyful look.

It was no wonder as magic items were usually very expensive.

After talking about it, it was decided that when they returned to Gimuru, the two merchants

would give goods from their store as a reward for saving their lives.

「So, though I heard what you were talking about.....what will we do?」

「What will we do? You mean what will we do with the goods?」

「No, though that's true.....will we take all this back with us? It will be troublesome to take all this to the carriage, it might even be impossible to load everything into the carriage.」

「Ah, I see.」

To Supervia's words, Scola nodded.

Even Culotte, Firuma and Arogan knew that it would be dangerous just to leave the weapons here. A new group of bandits might take up residence here and use those weapons, or maybe Goblins in the forest might arm themselves with them.

Meanwhile, Rei spoke up while spitting out a sigh.

「It can't be helped. I'll store everything into my item box and take it back to the city. Is everyone okay if we distribute everything after we get back to the city?」

At those words, Arogan nodded with a complex expression while all the others had joyful looks.

Particularly for Supervia, he was looking to replace his long sword with one of the good swords in the storage area as his previous one had been chipped in the fight against the bandits.

After that, Rei walked around the storage area, continuously storing things into his item box.

It should be noted that the two merchants, who didn't know Rei had an item box, were looking him with stunned faces.

Going back to when Rei started moving into the bandit cave.

Scorching Wind and Set, who they were entrusted with, were spending the night in the forest.

Though the request Scorching Wind had received was to subjugate 5 Treants, Treants weren't easily found.

Treants themselves were D rank monsters, they weren't a match for the C rank party, Scorching Wind. Besides, as they had Set, an A rank monster, there were no issues with their combat power.

However, that was in a frontal confrontation. To put it simply, Treants were trees with a face on the trunk. Though they could walk around using their roots, they would be found at

once if they did so. However, if they kept quiet without moving, it was very difficult to find them among the ordinary trees growing in the forest. In fact, even Set, who had much sharper senses than humans, was unable to find where the Treants were hiding.

「Ahhhh. I didn't think we wouldn't even find a single Treant in 3 days.」

Milein muttered as she picked up some dead wood and threw it into the fire.

「It can't be helped. In the first place, we knew that Treants would be hard to find.」

Sulunin said that to pacify Milein and held out a cup of tea, that had been made from the boiling water over the fire, to her.

「Thanks. But I didn't think we wouldn't find any up to now. Hey, we found them quite easily when we took a similar request previously.」

「Ah.....that. I'm sure I wasn't the only one who thought that we were going to die that time.」

At Milein's words, the third member of the party, Excel, had a bitter smile as she recalled the event.

It was from when Scorching Wind was still a D rank party. At that time, they had taken a similar Treant subjugation quest, entered the forest, and subjugated them.....after defeating them, they had gone to a nearby lake to take a rest. However, a horse made of water had appeared from the lake. They had encountered a C rank monster, Kelpie.

A Kelpie was a rank C monster. If all three members of Scorching Wind had exerted all their strength, they might have been able to defeat the single Kelpie. However, not much time had passed since they defeated the Treants, therefore, they judged that they couldn't win and ran away.

「Though we managed to escaped from that horse monster, the Kelpie, I can't even remember how we got away.」

「Hahaha. I truly thought we were going to die then.」

「Guru~?」

At Milein and Excel's dry laughter, Set, who had been lying down by the campfire, looked up with a puzzled face.

Milein's previous countenance, disappeared as she lovingly stroked Set's back.

「Ah, again. Set-chan is so cute!」

「Gururu~」

Happy to have his back stroked, Set gave a joyful cry.

However, he still felt lonely that Rei wasn't around. Milein felt that his cry was in lower spirits than usual.

「Seriously, why is Milein so crazy about Set.」

Sulunin smiled wryly as he looked at Milein playing with Set.

To Sulunin's words, Milein's eyes protested.....

「Gurururururururu~!」

Abruptly, Set gave a vigilant growl.

Though Milein didn't understand why he had made that sound for a moment, the next second, she quickly raised up her long sword.

「Both of you, get ready for combat. Apparently we have a welcoming party.」

「Well, well. If possible, I wished the welcoming party would have come during the day.」

「This one is a surprise party, I'm sure.」

While saying so with a light tone, Suluning and Excel directed their eyes towards the dark forest, cane and bow ready.

And.....

「Gururu~!」

Set, who felt something come flying out of the darkness, gave a short cry as he spat out his fire breath from his mouth.

The moment the fire breath came from Set's mouth, the object that had been cutting through the darkness was turned to charcoal.

「.....What, is it just me or has the power of the Fire Breath gone up since I last saw it at the Orc village?」

He had used Fire Breath against the Orc Archer in the battle against the Orcs led by the Orc King. However, Set's Fire Breath now was clearly more powerful and had a longer range than what Sulunin had seen at that time.

「Suluin, now's not the time to be fascinated by Set.Here they come!」

Instead of a nice smile, Set directed a ferocious smile at the enemy, like a carnivore before it's prey. Milein directed her gaze to the monsters coming out from the darkness as she smiled.

What came out were Treants, which were the target of Scorching Wind's subjugation request.However.

「There are 6 Treants! However, one of the Treants I've never seen before. It's probably a rare species!」

5 ordinary Treants could be seen. That was fine, but at the back, there was a Treant with strange appearance that seemed to be directing the other Treants. The surface of that Treant was a dark colour, unlike ordinary Treants. Not only Milein, but the other 2 people in Scorching Wind as well, intuitively understood that it possessed poison.

「Seriously, I didn't think it was possible for a rare species to appear.」

「You're right. These days, there have been rumors of an increasing number of rare species.....apparently it seems to be true.」

「But poison, give me a break.....」

A rare species would normally be a tricky existence of a C rank party to deal with.Yes. Normally that is.

「Gururururururu~!」

Set stood at the front of Scorching Wind, at the same time, he raised a cry that resounded through the forest, he used King's Awe.

At this point, the Treants' movements visibly dulled. With the Treants' dulled movements, they weren't able to hit Scorching Wind or to evade their attacks.

And.....

「Gururururu~!」

With a sharp cry, Set restrained several Treants with Wind Arrow. The Treants who had their movements dulled by King's Awe were unable to evade the attack and had their surfaces cut by the wind arrows.

「Gururururu~!」

Next, Set swiped with his eagle like forefoot. With that alone, a Treant was broken and blown away.

Though a Treant shot a vine out, like it did in from the darkness before, it was instantly turned to charcoal as Set used Fire Breath again.

His way of fighting the Treants, rather than protecting Scorching Wind, it was more to vent his anger at being separated from Rei. His cries sounded like he close to going wild from displeasure.

Finally, he broke a third Treant in half while Scorching Wind took out two Treants. As for the poison carrying Treant rare species, Set pierced the center of it's body with his sharp beak, gouged out it's magic stone and swallowed it, killing it at the same time.

【Set has acquired the skill『Poison Claw Lv.1』】

「Gururu~!」

The announcement message was only audible by Rei and Set. Seeing him give a happy cry, the rest of Scorching Wind could only give a wry smile.

Moreover, Milein nodded happily at Set's brave figure.

「Ah.....first of all, let's gather the proofs of subjugation before it's too late.」

Milein called out to Excel, who was looking at Set with amazed eyes.

As for Excel, there was no helping it. They cut off the single bud that would only appear once on each Treant as proof of subjugation.

In addition, it should be noted that aside from being the proof of subjugation, they were also an expensive material for potions and could be sold for a large amount of money, the branches of the Treant could also be used for canes and bows. For Scorching Wind, which had a tendency to run out of money, the Treants were a splendid monster.

「.....If possible, I wanted the magic stone of the rare species.」

「It can't be helped. In the first place, we weren't the ones that defeated the rare species.」

Milein retorted back to Sulunin's words as they collected the materials, magic stones and proofs of subjugation for the request.

【Set】

『Water Ball Lv.1』『Fire Breath Lv.2』『Wind Arrow Lv.1』『King's Awe Lv.1』『Poison Claw Lv.1』new

【Death Scythe】

『Corrosion Lv.1』『Flying Slash Lv.1』new『Magic Shield Lv.1』

Poison Claw: Claws can secrete poison. Enemies struck by the claw will be poisoned. The strength of the poison depends on the level.

Legend Chapter 56

Legend Chapter 56

Gimuru, the only city in the territory of Margrave Rowlocks. Two carriages were travelling along the highway to the city of Gimuru.

With clouds high above in the blue sky, the two carriages traveled along the road slowly.

「Ah, we should see the city shortly.」

On the larger of the two carriages, Gran gave a mutter.

The outer walls of the city of Gimuru became visible from the window.

「Ah, I'm tired. Even though it was for the rank up test, as expected, we had to go out for a few days.」

Given a sense of relief upon seeing the outer wall, Culotte murmured involuntarily.

「Though it certainly was tiring.....but it was still good. The merchants who were captured are all safe.」

「That's true. But to think that the bandits didn't use the carriage.」

Yes. The carriage was something Rei found after subjugating the bandits, after the two merchants had been caught, their carriage had been hidden in the forest intact. The bandits may have thought the carriage could be used to carry the stuff they stole from other people. Because of that, they let the two merchants ride in that carriage, avoiding the situation of cramming everyone into the guild carriage.

As the city of Gimuru, which they were returning to, came into view, Gran knocked on the carriage walls to alert Supervia and Rei, who were sitting in the drivers area.

「Can you hear me Rei and Supervia?」

「Ah.」

「No Problem」

Nodding at the answer from the driver's seat, Gran spoke up.

「Now then, since we can see the city of Gimuru, I'll keep explaining as we go back. It's not a complicated discussion though. We will disband when we return to the guild today. Afterwards, please get your reward from the reception desk. After that, we will gather back in the guild meeting room tomorrow afternoon. Before I forget about it, the results of the rank up test will be announced then. Well, it's nice and simple. Any questions?」

Culotte spoke up at Gran's words.

「What about the valuables we took from the bandit hideout?」

「I don't care, that's up to you guys to deal with. However, don't do anything that will cause

trouble or a dispute.」

「I understand. Then, if we're disbanded at the guild, can we divide everything earlier?」

The people in the carriage nodded at Culotte's words. Rei and Supervia, who were in the driver's seats, had no objections and didn't say anything.

「Then, it's decided. Rei, did you hear it? After we disband at the guild.....ah, where should we divide the items? We can't possibly do it in the guild.....」

There were some nasty adventurers who would put on airs due to their rank and were lawless. If they clearly showed this big bait in front of them.....Culotte could imagine they would get into trouble in future.

「That's right, we'll let you use the meeting room on the 2nd floor of the guild. Though taking and moving that amount of stuff will be hard, that amount is that amount, you'll have to do something about it one way or another.」

Gran gave out a helping hand to Culotte.

「Eh? Really? Then it's not necessary to worry about the valuables. Thank you Gran.」

「What, this is just much better compared to purposely stirring up trouble in the guild.」

「What, we.....ah, well that's true. It might get a little dangerous with Arogan.」

「Hey, why only me.」

Arogan and Culotte were arguing jokingly. The situation was clearly less insidious than at the beginning of the rank up test.

That was a matter of course. Every night for the past few days, since annihilating the bandits, Arogan, Culotte and Scola had been unable to sleep well and had talked to each other about their true feelings when they had killed the bandits. As a result, the three.....or rather Arogan and Culotte, found mutual understanding instead of their previously insidious relationship.

(.....Honestly speaking, I would have wanted to start the rank up test immediately if it had been possible. Well, those two are similar in the sense that they are stubborn.)

Rei listened to the exchange in the carriage behind him with a wry smile.

Because the possibility of monsters attacking this close to the city of Gimuru was low, Rei was currently admiring the surroundings rather than paying attention to the area around him.

「.....Rei.」

Supervia spoke to Rei in low tones so as to not let the people behind them hear.

「Is there something wrong?」

「No, it's just.....how to say it. I've been thinking about various things. I thought I was strong,

and in fact, at Rank E I may be strong without a doubt. But this time, I was reminded how small the world that is Rank E actually is.」

「Really?」

From Rei's perspective, Supervia's ability was quite high. At the very least, it was better than the abilities of all the arrogant people in the Rank D party Claws of the Hawk.

「Therefore, well, I just wanted to say that this has been a very good learning experience.」

「If you think so then isn't that fine? I didn't do anything special in particular.」

Thus, in the short time before arriving at the city of Gimuru, they spent the time talking to each other about the fights they experienced and past times where they had fought in close combat.

「Ah, Rei-kun. Welcome back. Was the rank up test successfully completed?」

When the carriage arrived at the main gate, Ranga's familiar voice called out.

「Ahh, it was successful. There weren't any injuries either, there should be no complaints about passing the test.....」

While talking, he held out his guild card.

Nearby, the others in the carriage also handed their guild cards to the guards.

「By the way, have you seen Set?」

「Set hasn't left town today. Since returning with Scorching Wind from a subjugation quest yesterday, he's been resting in the stables.」

「I see, I understand. Has he acted violently or anything of the sort?」

「No, there hasn't been any commotions. 」

Rei let out a sigh of relief at Ranga's words.

Even if he said that Set was as smart as a human, he was still slightly worried about leaving him for so long.

「Yes, here. You may pass.」

Receiving permission to pass, the carriage entered into the city.

It should be noted that the merchants' carriage had to go through a more complex procedure than adventurers and so they split up there.

Going straight down the street to the guild after entering the city, everyone took their belongings down from the carriage.

Of course, all of Rei's belongings were stored in the Misty Ring, because the Death Scythe was too unwieldy in the city, it was also stored into the Misty Ring. He was completely empty handed. With regards to weapons, he only had the Mithril Knife at his waist.

Gran called out to everyone after they had unloaded their belongings from the carriage.

「Okay, the rank up test has been hard. Well, we'll disband here.As I said in the carriage previously, you can collect your reward at the reception. At the same time, in regards to the procedure to use the meeting room, I don't mind. Now then, dismissed.」

After Gran said so, he quickly entered the guild. As the test examiner, it seemed that he had a lot of work to do.

「Now then, first let's receive our rewards.」

「Right. 1 silver coin to laugh about is 1 silver coin to cry about.」

TLN: In other words, it's not much but it's your loss if you don't get it.

At Culotte's proposal, Arogan agreed while saying that.

When they all entered the guild, as it was during the day, the figures of other adventurers could hardly be seen. Several adventurers were slowly eating lunch or looking at the posted requests on the request board.

In such an environment, Rei's group of 6 headed to the counter.

Seeing the appearance of Rei, Lenora and Kenny's faces brightened up.

「Rei-san, welcome back. Was the rank up test completed successfully?」

「Ahh, somehow. So we've come to receive the reward for the rank up test. I heard from the examiner, Gran, that we would be able to get it here.」

「Yes, that's correct. For the time being, please hand over your guild card.」

「Wai-, Lenora. Rei-kun is mine.....」

「Hey, Rei-san was entrusted to me, you should go handle the other people.」

「.....I understand.」

Following Lenora's words, each of the 6 submitted their guild cards to several receptionists.

After receiving the guild card and confirming the documents, they each received one silver coin.

「Congratulations for completing the test. While waiting from the results of the test, please rest your bodies slowly so you're not too tired.」

「Ahh, we've been allowed to use the meeting room above for a little while. Gran has talked to us about it.」

「I understand. there shouldn't be any problem as there aren't any meetings being held today.」

Nodding at Lenora's words, they went up to the second floor up the stairs after receiving their rewards.

「Rei-kun, let's celebrate after you pass the test.」

Kenny's voice could be heard behind him.

「Rei seems to be quite popular. That was a little surprising.」

Firuma looked at Rei interestingly. After that, Culotte gave a rare smile as she spoke up.

「I didn't think Rei had a preference for older girls. I'd better take care and be careful as well.」

「It's not like they love me or anything, they were just joking around.」

「I wonder? Their eyes seemed to be quite serious though.」

Next to speak was Supervia, muttering caustically.

「.....Jealous.」

「Wai-, Supervia!? You had such a character!?!」

「Even if Rei's popularity is surprising, Supervia's character is as well.」

While fooling around like that, They entered the meeting room and tightly closed the door, just in case.

「So, Rei. Please.」

「I understand.」

Prompted by Culotte, weapons, armour, jewelry, money, potions and cheap magic items appeared from the Misty Ring and were placed side by side on top of the meeting room table.

The amount was enough to break a cheap table as it would be unable to withstand the weight. Still, the table bore the weight with no problems, or should it be said, as expected of the table in the adventurers guild meeting room.

Seeing things appear out of nowhere, one after the other, they watched on, partially shocked. However, after about 5 minutes, they began looking over their loot.

「Well then, the question is how to divide this.....divide it into 6 equal parts, is what I'd like to say. First of all.....what does everyone want. I don't need weapons.」

At Rei's words, they each said what they wanted.

Arogan and Culotte took the money. Scola took the potions and cheap magic items. Firuma took the jewels and Supervia took the armour.

「Wait a moment, why do you want money. Shouldn't you take spare weapons or amour?」

「Do I have to say it? It's because there's no good weapons or armour for thieves.」

Arogan and Culotte started arguing again, the other four, including Rei, looked at them amazed.

However, they continued arguing for 5 minutes. After 10 minutes, they began to get tired of it.

「I'll take 10 daggers and 5 spears. Does anyone have any complaints?」

Rei said that and looked at the other 5.

「No, there's no problems with taking the spears and daggers.....」

All the members nodded at Culotte's words.

「Though I don't care about the spears and daggers.....will you use a spear? Because you use that large scythe, it will probably end up as an extra.」

「What, there's plenty of use for it like as a javalin.」

While answering Supervia's question, he stored the 5 spears and 10 daggers on the table into the Misty Ring.

「Now then. As that's my share, you 5 can decide the rest. I have to get back to the inn soon. I'm worried about Set.」

「Ah, Aah.」

「Well, it should be fine Rei.」

As Arogan nodded, partly due to the pressure, Firuma answered saying that there shouldn't be any issues.

As for the other people, they nodded as Rei didn't insist on taking anything that they were aiming for.

In particular was Arogan. As he couldn't use spears, didn't need the cheap daggers and had had his weakness pointed out by Rei, he was quite satisfied.

「Well then, I'll be going back then. See you in the guild tomorrow.」

The 5 people didn't keep him and Rei quickly left.

And after Rei left, the voices of Arogan and Culotte could be heard arguing in the meeting room again.

「Ah, Rei-san. Have you already finished using the meeting room?」

Getting back down to the first floor of the guild, Lenora called out from the counter.

As usual, Kenny also wanted to call out to Rei, however, she sent out a blaming glance at Lenora as she was currently currently working with an adventurer.

「My business is done. However, the other 5 are likely going to be using it for a while.」
「Is that so. Well, That's fine as there are no plans to use the meeting room.」

After that short conversation, Rei left the guild.

Lenora had a smile as saw him off. She more or less knew why Rei was in such a hurry.

After about 10 minutes, Rei appeared in front of the stables at the Dusk Wheat inn.

In his hand, he held about 10 skewers, that Set loved, that he had bought from the stalls.

「Gururururururu~!」

Set gave a loud cry of joy from the stables.

Because of the cry, Lana, the proprietress of the inn, would probably warn Rei for frightening all the horses in the stables.....

But for now, he was just happy at reuniting with Set for the first time in a few days.

Legend Chapter 57

Legend Chapter 57

It was the next day after the end of the rank up test. After going out to subjugate bandits and forming a party with people that he had barely met, Rei, who had been the party leader, slept in until noon to recover from the physical and mental fatigue.

After dressing himself, donning the Dragon Robe and putting on the Shoes of Sleipnir, he had a late breakfast, or rather, an early lunch on the first floor of the Dusk Wheat.....finishing that, he went down to the stables.

After Set was warned by Lana, the proprietress, for being too enthusiastic yesterday, as expected, as if settling down after seeing Rei the previous night, Set gave a normal cry.

「Gururu~」

「Ahh, good morning. Now then, I won't be taking a request today but I will be heading to the guild to hear the results of the rank up test, do you want to come along Set?」

「Guru~」

Of course. Nodding at Set while smiling, they left the stables together.

At that point, Rei felt that it wasn't just his imagination that all the horses in the stable seemed to feel relieved.

Maybe because the end of summer was nearing, unlike yesterday's weather, there were thin clouds in the sky today. In such weather, one man and one animal, Rei and Set, went into town.

And with that, while walking to the guild, Rei bought sandwiches and skewers from now familiar food stalls and ate them while the residents of the city of Gimuru gave Set dried meat and bread as the little children played with him. As for people who had come to Gimuru for the first time and did not know Set, people would stop and explain to them if they tried to run away after seeing Set. As one man and one animal walked to the guild like this, it was almost past noon when they arrived at the guild.

「Set, wait for me at the carriage area as usual. However, I might be a bit longer today.....well, there shouldn't be any problems.」

「Guru~」

At any rate, as of now, Set was a relatively famous monster in the city of Gimuru. Though he is an A rank monster, he was friendly to both children and adults. From women and children to the elderly, they were all fans of Set.

.....Well, though there were still some people who believed that monsters were monsters and detested Set, they were only a minority.

There were quite a few people who wanted to play with Set, because of that, the place near the guild where carriages and tamed monsters would stay had secretly become a popular

location to pet him.

Knowing that, Rei lightly stroked Set's head before entering the guild.

「Ah, good morning Rei-kun!No, I should say hello instead. Anyway, come here, come here.」

Kenny gave a big wave of her hand from the counter. As her voice went through the guild, Rei attracted the glances of quite a few adventurers.

Opposite to the usual scene that Rei would see, Lenora was the one currently explaining the description of a request to an adventurer.

While thinking of this rare situation, Rei went to Kenny's counter.

「I came to hear the results for the rank up test.」

「Un~, I've heard. Some of the other participants have already come. They're in the meeting room Rei-kun borrowed yesterday.」

「I see.」

Nodding, he was going to head up the stairs when he suddenly stopped.

「That reminds me, do you know how long those guys spent in the meeting room yesterday?」

「Mmm, the elf and a warrior left a little bit after Rei-kun.....」

「How about those three, Arogan, Culotte and Scola?」

「I don't know much about their names but the other warrior and the thief and mage duo remained for a while. Well, it seems in the end they were scolded by Gran-san.」

「So it happened after all.」

That happened because of their greed. He thanked Kenny with a wry smile before heading to the meeting room on the second floor.

「Ara~, you're late.」

Rei was greeted like so by Firuma.

Firuma had been talking with Culotte in the meeting room while Scola was reading a book on something.

「Is that so? I don't think it's too late as there are still two people who haven't come.」

While replying to Firuma, he sat down on a nearby chair and called out to Culotte.

「You seem to have argued for quite a while yesterday?」

「I know right. We were just talking about that before.」

「Even if you tell me that.....it's bad that Arogan was greedy.」

「I think both of you are to blame. So, how was it split in the end?」

「.....Still ongoing. We will resume the discussion after today's announcement.」
「Well, though I can't say much as I've already got my share.....I don't think it's a good idea to be too greedy.」
「Don't tell that to me, tell that to Arogan.」
「.....That's my line.」

Arogan entered the room disgruntled.

「Although thieves are all greedy, you are exceptional even among them.」
「Wait a moment, what is that supposed to mean!」
「It's just as I said.」

While arguing with Culotte, he sat down next to them.

Though at first glance the situation seemed dangerous like the time at the start of the rank up test, below that, there was trust between two people who had mutually recognized the other.

Rei and Fimura looked at the two, who were arguing of trivialities, in amazement. Scola, who would usually remonstrate with Culotte, was absorbed in reading a book and seemed to ignore the situation.

「He seems to be quite absorbed in that book over there.」
「Over there? Ahh, it's Scola. A magic book that he had wanted for some time finally got stocked so he bought it first thing this morning.」
「He should have quite a bit of money from the silver coin reward, the potions and cheap magic items from the bandits treasure.」
「Something like that, apparently he was saving up money because he wanted this book.」
「Hee~, it must be about some interesting magic. What kind of magic book is it?」
「It seems to be about Esta Nord, a Majin and one of the most famous alchemists.」
「.....Hou~.」

At those words that came out, Rei froze for a moment.

After all, Esta Nord was the alchemist in Zepairu's organization. In fact, most of the magic items Rei was wearing were Esta Nord's works.

「Rei?」
「No, I was just surprised for a moment as a bigger name than I expected came up. Still, I knew that Scola was a mage that specialised in wind and water magic, but is he also involved in alchemy?」
「What? Instead of asking me, you should ask the person in question.」
「If you say so. Well, he seems to be absorbed in the book right now.」

In that way, Arogan and Culotte kept arguing and Rei and Firuma chatted while Scola kept reading his magic book. Finally, the last person arrived.

「It seems I'm the last person.」

「That's right. But Gran still hasn't come yet so you shouldn't worry too much about it.」

Supervia said that as he entered the room, wearing different equipment from the day before.

It was still the same leather type armour, but it had been changed to a superior one.

「I see, that's the armour you picked.」

「Ahh.Yesterday was tiring. Of course, the armour was heavy and I had to carry it. After keeping some spares for myself, I sold of the rest to shops but.....」

「Ahh, I see.」

Things like potions and gems don't take up that much space and Rei only took 5 spears and 10 daggers. It wasn't that hard for him to carry around as Rei had the Misty Ring. In comparison, the protective gear that Supervia took was different. Both shields and armour had a considerable weight as they were made from metal and the skin and bones of monsters.

「What's wrong?」

「I called up some acquaintances to help carry them. But I had to give them some money in return.」

At that point, as Rei was talking with Supervia, he heard footsteps coming towards the conference room.

「It seems he's come.」

「What?」

「The person who will tell us whether or not we ranked up.」

Matching Rei's words, Gran entered the room a few second later.

Gran looked around the meeting room and after confirming that all the rank up test participants were here, spoke up.

「Okay, everyone is here. Then, the results of the test will be announced now.」

At Grans words, the meeting room fell dead silent, filled with tension.

Scola, who had been reading his book without minding his surroundings, now turned his eyes tensely to Gran.

Attracting everyone's attention.....Gran nodded with a smile.

「Congratulations. All of you have been promoted to rank D.」

「YEEESSSS!」

「I did it, I did it.」

「Ahh, that's good.....」

「It's seems I've done it somehow.」

「I'm relieved.」

Arogan, Culotte, Scola and Supervia rejoiced at their rank up in their own ways while Firuma gave a sigh of relief.

Rei also smiled while sighing in relief.

After all, it was his social skills that were being tested as party leader. He would have been more confident if it was testing his strong points, but he was nervous as the test had been on his weak point.

「Congratulations Rei.」

「Ahh, you too as well.」

Rei replied as Firuma congratulated him from nearby while smiling.

「That's enough rejoicing for now. Hey, come here.」

At Gran's voice, a person, who was probably a guild staff member, entered the conference room and approached Rei.

「Everyone, because your rank needs to be updated, please pass your guild cards to this person.」

Following his instructions, they all handed over their guild cards. The guild staff member checked each one as they were handed in to make sure.

「Gran-san, I'll get this done immediately.」

「Ahh, thanks. In the meantime, I'll talk about the test until it's done.」

「Okay, it shouldn't take that long.」

After saying that to the the guild staff member and seeing him off, Gran turned to Rei.

「From today on, you are all rank D adventurers. However, you should remember that there were some dangerous situations in the test. First of all, Rei. As I said before the test, you have no problems regarding combat power. However, at rank D and higher, you will have to participate in groups more often. Though your social interaction was a problem.....and your instructions in combat weren't perfect, it is still a passing grade. Your cooperation with allies was the same. However, in regards to the exchange with the merchants, particularly regarding the goods, there is a demerit. If you return a merchant's goods for free, it will become a problem if they start demanding the same from other adventurers. Fortunately, it worked out well this time as those merchants understood the problem. So as I said, watch out for that in rank D.」

Rei nodded at Gran's words.

Seeing that, Gran turned his eyes to Culotte.

「Next is Culotte. At the beginning of the rank up test, you were aggressive to Rei and Arogan, probably due to your nervousness. As I said to Rei, there was also the issue of returning the merchants' goods free of charge. However, other than that, your abilities as a thief are worthy of rank D. Continue to work hard in future.」

Culotte also nodded.

Gran turned to look at Scola.

「In your case Scola, your mental weakness is an issue. At any rate, vanguard aside, as a mage in the back, you were troubled after you killed the bandit. Your future task is to improve your mental strength.」

「Yes, I'll do my best.」

Scola answered.

Nodding in satisfaction at the response, Gran looked towards Supervia.

「Next are Supervia and Firuma. Both of you did well to hide your unease even though you had killed a person. If you were to add that to your rank up test mark, you two would come out on top. However, you are still only rank D. From the viewpoint of adventurer, there's still more to the top. Keep working hard in future and don't be satisfied with just this.」

「I will do that.」

「I'll keep that in mind.」

Seeing the two people nod, he finally turned to Arogan.

「In this test, your evaluation was the lowest. You overestimate your own power and look down on others. You were late to the meeting time. You couldn't communicate well with your party members either. After killing a person, you showed mental weakness. Honestly, the way it was, it wouldn't be wrong to fail you on the rank up test. However, after you talked with Culotte and Scola, you got over your mental weakness of killing people, thanks to that, your interaction within the party also reached the passing grade.However, listen up. You should not forget that you only barely passed the rank up test.」

「.....Ah.」

At Gran's harsh criticism, Arogan nodded with a bitter face.

Making sure he understood, Gran then directed his gaze to everyone in the place.

「At any rate, from today on, you are all rank D adventurers. You will now be seen as fully fledged adventurers who are past the beginners and rookies of rank E. However, you should not forget to conduct yourselves.Especially Arogan, you must always be conscious of this.」

「Sorry for making you wait.」

As Gran's words finished, with good timing, the previous staff member came back.

In his hand, he held six guild cards, who he returned to each person.

All the ranks on the guild card had been changed from E to D. They all smiled when they realised that they had all ranked up.

It was the same even for Rei, who usually didn't have too much change in his facial expression.

「Okay, that's the end of the rank up test! I expect you to play an active role in future. Dismissed!」

In accordance with his words, each person stood up and left the meeting room. Arogan and Culotte continued on from yesterday while Scola pulled out his book.

As for Rei, as he stood up to follow them.....Gran called out.

「Rei, you remain here. We have to talk for a bit.」

Gran said that with rather serious look.

Legend Chapter 58

Legend Chapter 58

The rank up test had been successfully completed and he had passed, his rank increasing to rank D. But after being dismissed.....a voice spoke up to stop Rei from leaving the meeting room. It was Gran, who had also been the rank up test examiner.

「Are there any issues with the rank up?」

Gran shook his head at Rei's question. Glancing at the staff member who had brought the guild cards in earlier, the staff member gave a small nod in understanding and left the meeting room.

Sending him off, Gran checked to make sure the meeting room door was closed properly before sitting down in the seat that Rei had sat in before.

「Rei, there's something important to discuss.」

Rei immediately understood that his face wasn't a joking one. Because of that, he sat down on a chair in front of Gran without saying anything.

「So, what's the story?」

「Ah, that's right.What should I say first. Well, I think this should come first. Congratulations on passing the rank up test.」

「It's a bit embarrassing being told that.....but I would like to say thanks. So, saying congratulations surely isn't the only thing you want to say right?」

「Naturally. I'll cut to the chase. As you know, adventurers can receive and accept requests from the request board. However, there are also other types of requests. One such type is the nominated request. Did you hear about them when you registered with the guild?」

At Gran's words, he thought back to what Lenora had told him when he was registering with the guild, but as he hadn't heard about it then, he shook his head.

「No, I have not heard of nominated requests. But well, I can roughly guess what it is from the name. Instead of leaving it on the request board for all adventurers, is it a request where the client nominates an adventurer?」

「That's more or less correct. Naturally, because the adventurer is directly nominated, the degree of difficulty is usually higher and they may be subject to confidentiality regarding the situation of the client.」

While saying that, Gran had a slightly bitter expression. From that look, Rei could feel that he didn't have a good impression of nominated requests.

「So, the fact that you've told that to me.....」

「That's correct. Rei, there has been a nominated request for you.」

「.....Well, I realised from the direction of the conversation, but why me? I only just got to rank D today.」

「Yes. Certainly, you are a novice who just reached rank D today. From the perspective of

most adventurers, you're only a young kid in rank D with no skills or experience. However, at the same time, you have the strength to defeat a rank B Orc King by yourself and tame a Griffon, a rank A monster. If you look at only combat strength, you're not in rank D.]

「So I'm a special D rank adventurer?」

Gran nodded at Rei's question.

「In addition, the person who nominated Rei for this request is a big shot in this city.]

「.....From those words, is it a noble?」

Even the city of Gimuru had its own nobles. There wasn't just the Neutral faction that the lord of Gimuru, Margrave Rowlocks, belonged to. The King's faction and the Noble's faction weren't small in the city either. At any rate, Gimuru was the only city in frontier territory that Margrave Rowlocks governed. In other words, as the threat of monsters needed to be dealt with directly, there were many talented adventurers at the frontier. If things went well, the factions planned to scout them. Because of that, Rei asked Gran if it was a request from nobility.....

「That's right, as you said, it is a noble. I mean, it's from the lord of the city of Gimuru.]

「.....What?」

「As I said, the lord of the city of Gimuru, Margrave Rowlocks, has nominated you for this request.]

「Why would the Margrave nominate me.....no, don't tell me.]

Asking Gran, he immediately realised with a bitter smile.

As Gran had said earlier, he was accompanied by a Griffon, an A rank monster. He also had the ability to defeat an Orc King. It would be strange if someone hadn't reported this to the Margrave.

「I think I understand the situation. The Margrave Rowlocks seems to have been paying attention to you for a while. At any rate, the rank up exam seems to have been carried out under direct orders from the Margrave.]

「Is he trying to tie me to him?」

For Rei, it was the only reason he could think of for the Margrave to provide him such conveniences.

At any rate, that wouldn't be strange as he had exceptional abilities for a rookie who just registered with the guild.

「Well, I don't know about that. After all, a Margrave is a title in the upper nobility. I'm only a guild staff member, I can't understand what such a person would be thinking. However, I think that he wants you to stay as an important combat force for the city rather than trying to put a leash on you.The nobility in this country is divided into 3 main powers. Did you know that?」

「Ahh. That was written in a book in the library. The King's faction, the Nobles faction and the Neutral faction, those 3?」

「That's right. The smallest out of them is the Neutral faction and Margrave Rowlocks is seen as a big shot in that faction. In other words, leaving the city of Gimuru has a similar meaning to reducing the combat strength of the Neutral faction. Though I would be cautious about this.....well, this is only my suspicions as a guild staff member. You shouldn't worry about it too much.」

Though Gran said that with a wry smile, Rei gave a big nod as that was a helpful opinion and could serve as a reference.

「Well, the talk has gone off topic. So, about the nominated request..... one week from now, the only daughter of Duke Kerebel, who is a central figure in the Nobles faction, will be coming to the city of Gimuru.」

「.....As a central figure in the Nobles faction, why would he send his only daughter to a city of an opposing faction?」

「Ahh. Even though you say that, it doesn't seem to be for a factional dispute this time.At the very least, as the other party has stated as such, there's no need to worry about it.」

「Then, why would someone like a noble's daughter bother to come to the frontier?」

「That, apparently her objective seems to be a dungeon.」

「Dungeon?」

「Ahh. When you had that dispute with the Claws of the Hawk, do you remember what Runo talked about?」

Runo. Recalling that name, the face of the good looking man, who had treated Rei's dispute with the Claws of the Hawk with indifference, came to mind.

「If I remember correctly, he said he had magic eyes which could directly see magic power.」

「Yes, that guy. So, you would have heard that your dispute with Claws of the Hawk happened after they had a successful venture into the dungeon?」

「Come to think of it, such a thing was mentioned.In other words, the Duke's daughter has come here for the dungeon?」

Really? Rei's eyes seemed to say as he looked at Gran.

However, Gran shook his head while looking at Rei with a wry smile.

「I don't know what you just imagined but Duke Kerebel's daughter is different from your typical young noblewoman. She's currently registered as a rank B adventurer.....she has the same level of ability as the lower rank A adventurers.」

「.....I heard it before, but just to check, she's a duke's daughter?」

「Ah.」

「What came to mind when I thought of a young noblewoman was a girl carefully brought up like a flower or butterfly.....is that wrong?」

「Well, generally speaking, you're not wrong. In fact, most daughters of nobles in the Imperial Capital match your description. However, Duke Kerebel's daughter is different. From what I heard, in a skirmish with the Bestir Empire 2 years ago, she led Duke Kerebel's knights through the battlefield, eventually killing the enemy general in single combat.」

Bestir Empire. It was one of the countries adjacent to the Mireana Kingdom and was one of the biggest powers on the continent. It's strength was comparable to that of the Mireana Kingdom, which was also a leading power. It also had an expansionist policy and even now was bringing small neighbouring countries under its rule.

Of course, Rei had learned about the country from the library. He also knew that the Bestir Empire had been in conflict with the Mireana Kingdom for many years.

However, as expected, it was the first time he had heard of a duke's daughter running through a battlefield.

「Is she really a duke's daughter? It differs from my imagination by too much.」

「Ah well. To be honest, it's quite unusual. The Bestir Empire is even afraid of her, calling her the General Princess. The name has since spread to the Mireana Kingdom.」

「General Princess, hey.....can a noble call themselves princess?」

「Don't ask me. Ask the Bestir Empire that. But well, I don't think it's wrong to call a noble's daughter princess. So, going back to the story. Though I don't know why, the General Princess seems to have taken only several attendants to go to the dungeon. Because of that, Duke Kerebel made a request to Margrave Rowlocks.」

At Gran's words, he understood but frowned his eyebrows slightly.

「Then rather than rank D, shouldn't A or B rank parties be employed? Or a thief like Culotte, since it's a dungeon.」

That was clearly a valid question. At any rate, the Duke was sending his beloved daughter to the dangerous place known as a dungeon. If adventurers were employed as guards, it would be more reassuring if they were high ranking adventurers with proven abilities. There should be no need to request an adventurer who just entered rank D.

「Though I haven't been given many details, apparently, adventurers of rank C or higher are no good.」

「.....That's rather suspicious, isn't it.」

「Ah well. However, Margrave Rowlocks can't refuse the Duke without a clear reason.」

In fact, because of the difference in power between the Nobles and Neutral factions, if the Neutral faction members were not careful, they would immediately be cornered. Moreover, Margrave Rowlocks could only accept due the difference in social position between a margrave and a duke.

「So, that's why Margrave Rowlocks had no choice but to accept the request. If the Duke's daughter, known as the General Princess, were to die in this territory.....what would happen, you can probably guess?」

「In the worst case, Margrave Rowlocks would lose his nobility.」

「Ah. Even in the best scenario, a considerable amount of territory would be lost.Well, it wouldn't be too much of a problem even if some territory is lost because Margrave Rowlocks' only city is this city of Gimuru. However, if the city of Gimuru were to be taken

away.....」

He let out a deep sigh at Gran's words.

「So, that is the reason why I was chosen to be an escort despite being only rank D.」

「That's right. In the first place, she is a person called the General Princess. She went out to a battlefield and even killed the enemy general in single combat, it stands to reason that she's considerably strong. Because of that, Rei is probably only an emergency backup. The fact you are accompanied by a Griffon is also good.」

「For now, I would like to know, can a nominated request be refused?」

「After telling you the story, I more or less expected you to ask that. Normally, it's possible to refuse a nominated request, it's not unusual either. However, the client this time is Margrave Rowlocks, the lord of the city. You cannot decline it.」

Hearing Gran's words, he thought about the request in his mind.

(It can't be refused. However, this request is also a chance to go to the dungeon, which I've been wanting to do. Because there seems to be a considerably high chance of high ranking monsters appearing in the dungeon, I can expect a large amount of quality magic stones. The problem is, will there be suspicion if I don't sell the magic stones.....no, the problem is the Duke's daughter from the Imperial Capital. Though I don't the reason why she needs to go to the dungeon, she will probably quickly leave the frontier once her work is done. Then the probability of her noticing the unnaturalness of not selling the magic stones should be low.)

「By the way, can I enter the dungeon with Set? Or to be more precise, is there enough space in the dungeon for someone as big as Set to fight?」

「There are no problems regarding that. Basically, monsters bigger than your Griffon, Set, can be found in the dungeon. There's no need to worry about inconveniencing other people in the area.」

「I see. If that's the case, I can manage.」

「If you're saying that, then can I assume you will take the request?」

「Who was it that said I couldn't refuse it?」

At Rei's words, Gran could only give a wry smile.

「Though that's true, the person's attitude is important as well. So, you're okay in receiving it?」

「Ah. So, what should I do? Do I just have to come to the guild in a week, after the General Princess arrives?」

「That's right. Well, more details will be given in the next few days. You have to be in good physical condition. It would be no joke if the request comes around and you can't fight because you're injured. It would be good if you don't take any subjugation requests for the next week.」

「.....Is that necessary?」

To that question which was asked involuntarily, Gran gave a serious nod.

「Ah. After all, it involves the safety of the Duke's daughter and the fate of the city of Gimuru is involved. You're there for that reason.」

「.....Haa~, I understand. By the way, what's the reward?」

「The reward for successful completion is 2 light gold coins.」

TLN: Quick reminder, 1 light gold coin is 10 platinum coins. According to the author's exchange rate, about 20k USD.

「.....Are you serious?」

2 light gold coins. As the reward for the completion of a single request, it was rare, even in rank A.

「I've said this many times, but this is a very important request. So keep that in mind. 」

Thus, as Rei had just risen to D rank, he was suddenly forced to receive a nominated request.

And, although this request would become an important turning point for Rei, he had no way of knowing himself.

Legend Chapter 59

Legend Chapter 59

Hearing from Gran about the contents of the nominated request in one week's time, Rei reluctantly accepted it. He walked down the guild stairs while thinking about the request that would start the next week.

「Ah, Rei-kun. You're the last one, did something happen?」

Though Kenny called out as soon as she saw Rei, as he couldn't talk about the Duke's daughter with so many people around, he gave an appropriate excuse.

「Just something about the rank up test I just did. After all, it was the first time I've had to be a party leader.」

「Is that so. But certainly, Rei is usually solo.Since you've risen to rank D, have you thought about joining a party soon? You know, various requests will start to have increased risks and dangers.」

「Wait, don't be rude. Rei-san has various circumstances of his own.」

To Kenny who was asserting that Rei should join a party, Lenora gave a rebuke from nearby.

「What, Lenora, are you saying that Rei should continue to solo?」

「I didn't really say that, I'm saying that we shouldn't interfere as staff members of the guild.」

「.....I understand. Really, Lenora is so harsh. It's because of that that your body is so hard and doesn't have any womanly softness.」

As Kenny softly muttered into the surroundings, those words that subtly hinted at Lenora's delicate build. Lenora instantly raised her eyebrows.

「Hey, Kenny. That's something I can't ignore. Who said such a thing?」

「No one in particular. Everyone says that.」

Pressed by Lenora, Kenny replied in a provocative tone.

Naturally, Lenora couldn't stay silent and they started arguing as usual.

Fortunately, it was in the afternoon and there weren't many adventurers in the guild. In addition, most of them were in the tavern area, eating a late lunch.

.....However, as expected, they wouldn't act like this during adventurer peak hours in the morning and evening.

「Well then, since you seem to be busy, I'll get going. See you later.」

「Ah, wai- Rei-kun!? Onee-san wants to celebrate your passing of the rank up test.....」

「Hey Kenny! You're still in the middle of work!」

Lenora intervened. Kenny's invitation was probably because she had been told that he had passed the rank up test from the people who had come down earlier.

While hearing such exchanges from behind him, Rei left the guild.

「Gururu~」

Set gave a cry to welcome Rei while being stroked by several children.

Looking closely, one of the children stroking Set was the one who had tried to give Set some dried meat just before Rei went out for the rank up test.

「Ah, Onii-chan. Look, Set is eating the dried meat I gave him.」

The boy happily said that to Rei when he noticed him.

Rei gave his usual wry smile when he heard that as he scratched Set's head.

「That's good. We have to get going now, is that okay?」

「Yes! Until next time Set.」

After the boy said that, he ran back towards downtown. The other children ran after him after they greeted Rei and Set.

Rei watched the children go while stroking Set's back.

「Before I knew it, I've become a fairly popular person in the city.」

「Guru~」

「Well then, lets go back to the inn.That said, what should we do for the next week.」

Though he hadn't been banned from taking subjugation requests, he had been warned by Gran not to take them if possible. Then could he do collection requests? Thinking about that, 1 man and 1 animal returned to their usual lodging at the Dusk Wheat inn.

On the way back, they bought some simple food from the open air stalls.

At any rate, since they couldn't eat it all at once, he stored the rest into the Misty Ring as they wouldn't rot and would stay fresh. Because of that, he went shopping without reserve.

While contributing to the sales of the food stalls as usual, they arrived back at the Dusk Wheat inn. As he said goodbye to Set at the stables, Rei saw a scene outside of his imagination in the inn.

「Ah, Rei. Come here, come here. Why were you so slow?」

Firuma called out to him while drinking a glass of wine.

「He certainly was slow.」

Supervia added in as he ate a large meat stew.

「.....」

Scola was concentrating on his magic book in the same way as in the meeting room and didn't notice Rei.

「.....Hmph.」

Arogan carried a meat skewer to his mouth while turning his head away.

「Were you surprised? Then the surprise was a success.」

Culotte greeted Rei with a smile.

「.....What's going on?」

While replying to the 5 people, he went to the table.

「What, it's the celebration for passing the rank up test. Because it's a special event, you have to celebrate.」

「No, I mean I never heard about this?」

「That's right. The rest of the party talked about it when you were still in the meeting room.」

Understanding that it seemed to have been decided when he had been forcibly detained, Rei sat down in an empty seat.

Then, as if waiting for that, Lana gave a Rei a glass of wine.

「Rei-san, congratulations on passing the rank up test.」

「Ahh, I did it somehow.」

「Now then, lets raise a toast in celebration with Rei.....hey, Rei. Because you're the party leader you also have do this.」

Forcibly told by Culottes, he lifted his wine glass while spitting out a sigh.

「Then, to congratulate all members who participated in the rank up test and passed successfully and for our future activities.....cheers!」

『Cheers!』

At this time, Arogan did not object and happily gave a toast before drinking.

「That said, as expected the rank up test was tough. Both physically and mentally.」

Culotte said that while frowning her eyebrows slightly. Although the alcohol may have been an influence, you could tell from her tone that she had gotten over killing people.

「That's true, it's not a very pleasant thing to talk about though.」

Firuma agreed to that.

Though it didn't really show on her face while fighting, in the end, she still was under considerable mental pressure to kill a person.

「.....Oh, sorry, sorry. I didn't mean to talk about those gloomy things. Changing the topic. What are everyone's plans after reaching rank D? As for me.....」

Culotte hesitated and and glanced towards Arogan and Scola for an instant.

「I'll be forming a party with those 2.」

Those surprising words were said.

「Hey, there's no need to tell everyone else.」

「What. There's no problem if it's the people we ranked up with. I mean, we're in the same group.」

「.....I thought you 2 were arguing about the matter of the reward, when did it become like this?」

At Culotte's remark, Rei was amazed and asked with a surprised face.

But instead of Arogan or Culotte answering that, it was Scola, who had finally stopped reading his magic book to enjoy his meal.

「That seems to be the cause of it」

「That?」

「Yes. After arguing about the reward, they ended up getting along with each other. So the talk progressed smoothly after that.」

「No, I mean, are you fine with that? You were originally in a party with Culotte.」

Supervia interjected as he heard the conversation between Rei and Scola but Scola nodded with no problems.

「Hey, you know that Culotte and I are a thief and mage? Because the party was only us 2, we had talked about the lack of a vanguard for a while. If we divided us 2 into front and rear, only Culotte could take the front.....but in the end, she's a thief. We determined that we had a lack of defensive power. If you think about it, I'm happy that a strong warrior like Arogan has entered the party.」

「But, have you thought about party compatibility?」

To Firuma's question, he gave a wry smile at their quarrel.....or rather, Arogan and Culotte's playful argument.

TLN: Did you just get NTRed Scola? You can't let that happen! Be a man!

「Well you see, those two are similar.」

「.....Something like arguing in the family.」

As Rei murmured, maybe because of the alcohol that they had drank, Scola, Supervia and Firuma unintentionally burst into laughter.

「Then why don't the three of you set up a party? With Supervia and Rei in the vanguard as

a warrior and magic warrior, and with Firuma, who can use spirit magic and the bow, in the rear, I think the balance is perfect.」

「Hmm. That's an interesting thought, I would join if I can defeat Rei.....well, at the very least not until the point I can fight with him for at least 5 minutes.」

With a wry smile, Supervia muttered as he drank his glass of wine before ordering some ale from Lana, the proprietress.

With his pride as a warrior, he probably couldn't accept being weaker than Rei and leeching off him.

「Well.....I don't particularly mind. What about you Rei?」

At Firuma's words, Rei shook his head.

「Whether you make a party or not, it will be impossible for while.」

「Ara~, why?」

Everyone at that place, including Arogan and Culotte, who were arguing playfully just a few seconds ago, looked towards Rei. He judged that the people here wouldn't spread the story and started to speak.

「I've received a bit of a difficult request. Because I don't know how long I will be with the other party, it will have to wait until that is settled.」

「Ah, is that the reason why you had to remain in the meeting room?」

He nodded to Culotte's words.

「Ahh. Even though I've just risen to rank D, I was suddenly given a nominated request.」

「.....Well, it's not a strange story given Rei's strength.」

Supervia nodded while saying that.

He had fought mock battles with with Rei until they reached the bandit hideout during the test, seen his abilities during the battle against the bandits and fought mock battles with him on the way back. To Supervia, who had had a mock battle with Rei for almost every day during the rank up test, he didn't find anything strange with Rei receiving a nominated request as soon as he reached rank D. Rather, he felt that it was a recognition of his fighting strength.

「Though I acted as the party leader this time, I understand that I'm not suited for group actions. At the very least, being the party leader is too unpleasant to accept.」

「Though you can certainly solo if you're strong enough Rei.....isn't it a little risky?」

「Though I understand Culotte's worries, I have my companion, Set.....ahh, he's my Griffon. We can work as 1 man and 1 animal for now.」

In fact, if you just think of Set's combat strength, he was a strong monster, a Griffon. He had also learned several skills by absorbing magic stones. As for his combat strength, you could

say that it was greater than an A rank adventurer.

(Adding to that, there's also the matter of arguing over magic stones. Considering that, it's one of the reasons to solo.)

While thinking that in his mind, he brought some of the stir fried Poison Toad thigh meat to his mouth.

At that moment, the door into the Dusk Wheat opened and two people walked inside.

And the two people went straight to the table Rei was at.

「I heard it in the guild, congratulations on ranking up.」

「Congratulations」

A mage and an archer said that to him. Rei recognised both of them.

「Sulunin, Excel. It's been a while. Thanks for looking after Set while I was away.」

「No, no, we should say thanks to you.Ah, mind if we join?」

To Sulunin's voice as he looked around, as there wasn't any objections in particular, they all nodded and directed him to a seat.

「But still, rank D already. It seems you'll catch up to us in no time.」

「Oba-chan, can you get me and him some ale? Um, please pick something suitable.」

Excel made an order for Lana as she sat down on a seat as well.

「Rei, these people are.....」

At Firuma's question,

「Ahh. They are Sulunin and Excel from Scorching Wind. I met them during the Orc subjugation.Come to think of it, where's Milein? Is she doing something else today?」

「Ah.....that is.」

Sulunin scratched his cheek with a wry smile. Just by seeing this, Rei roughly guessed.

「I see, the stables.」

「Yes. We heard in the guild yesterday that Rei-kun had come back, so it seems she misses Set even more.」

「So, that's the reason she rushed to the stables.Well, that's fine. She'll come in here to drink sooner or later」

「That's right. I think that's highly likely. Then, to celebrate everyone's promising promotion, we'll pay tonight.」

「.....Are you sure? I thought you said you had no money a little while ago.」

「What, we were able to take out the Treants without much effort because of Set. We have enough to spare now.」

In this way, the festivities continued.

During the feast, Scorching Wind, Firuma and the other 5 threw away all their reservations as they relaxed in their own ways.

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